



Asia
August-September 2015
Php 100

Model: Aileen Mapanao
Game: Brave Frontier
Character: Ice Legend Selena
Photographer: Japs Antido

LAY ISSUE | COSPLAY ISSUE | COSPLAY ISSUE | COSPLAY ISSUE | COSPLAY ISSUE | COSPLAY ISSUE | COSPLAY ISSUE | COSPLAY ISSUE

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OTAKU LIFE HACKS: FABRIC PICKING | COSPLANNER 2.0 | BODY PAINT
CON-IN-FOCUS: STARMARIE FANTASTIC TOUR | TOYCON 2015 | LISA
GAMER'S ARENA: LOVE LIVE! SCHOOL IDOL PROJECT | NEKO ATSUME
REVIEWS: WORKING!!! | GRISAIA NO RAKUEN | ARSLAN SENKI

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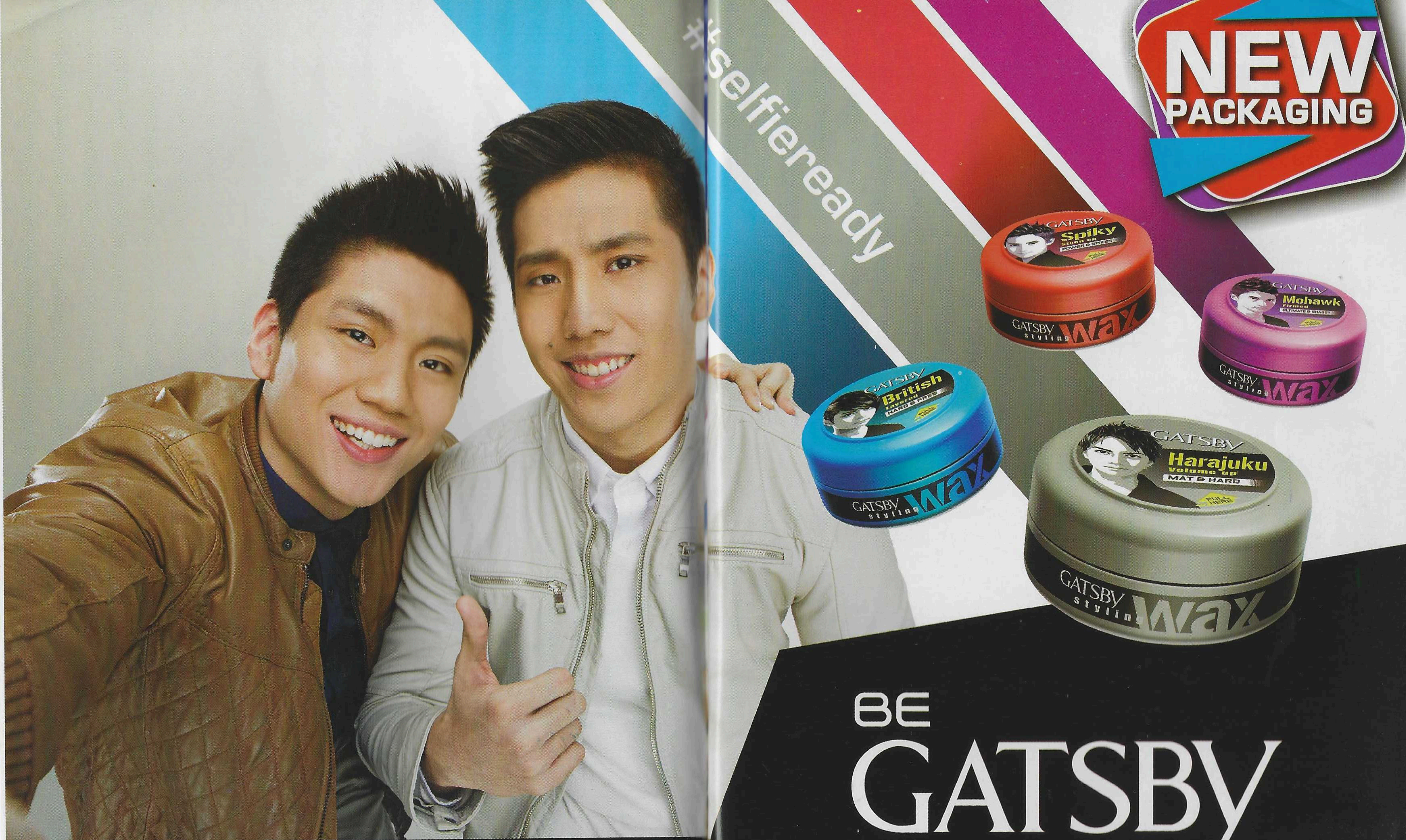
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Model: Ken Lim
Game: Dynasty Warriors 7
Character: Liu Bei
Photographer: Chops Bardos

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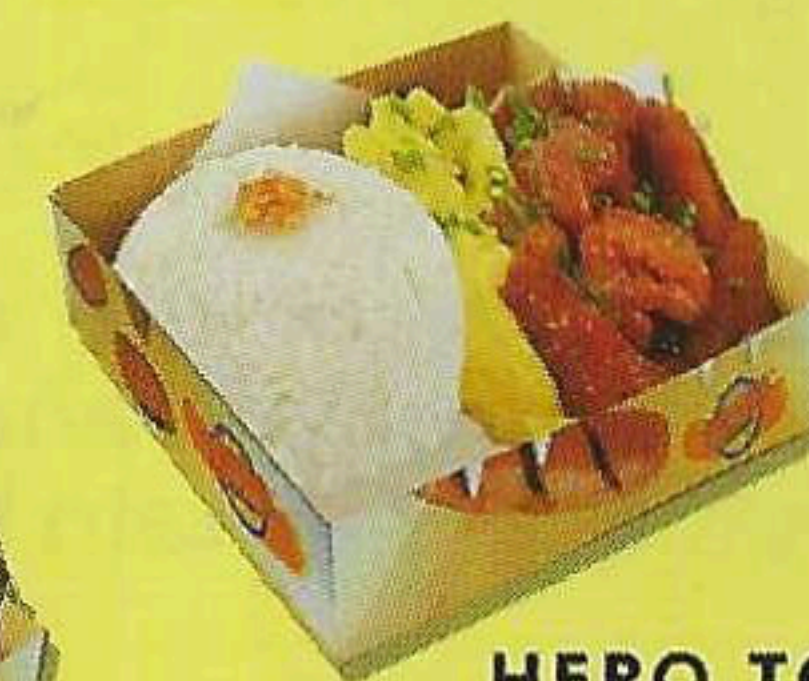
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Cosplay has become a great part of the anime culture in the Philippines. It has evolved from portraying their favorite characters onstage to having stunning photos.

There is now a demand for photographers who can bring characters to life. We feature a number of them in this issue. And more, we also have tutorials for you aspiring cosplayers and cosplay photographers!

Events and concerts shook Metro Manila earlier this year and we were there to witness. Anisong's LiSA and Starmarie came in our country to perform! Many thanks to our new friends and partners~

Event season has begun, let us cosplay!
[GM] Kandy

CONTRIBUTORS QUESTION:

How do you tell that a cosplay photography is done well?

When the photo makes me interested in the character being cosplayed. Just by the photo, I should be able to appreciate all the elements that the cosplayer has brought out: the details of the costume, the make-up used, the scene created and the facial expression.

-Heloise Diamante

By the posture, details in the cosplay, background, lighting also the facial expression

-Alexander Ramos

When the character itself is brought to life by the model and stands out as the focus of the picture.

-Ann Carmel Flores

If in the picture, I see the anime character first before the cosplayer

-Elaine Rose Palaruan

As long as the cosplayer's poses are really in-character, the background scene fits well with the photography theme and proper lighting effects are used.

-Nathaniel Angeles

When the colors are really vivid, no matter what the theme is (either dark or light) and the cosplayer doesn't float but instead goes along well with all the other elements in the picture

-Dhanliza Cellona

It depends on the relevance of the character to the place of shoot, quality of the image and accuracy of the costume to obtain the "feels~" level.

-Dianne Gaviño

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THE COSPLAY CAFE
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PERKEE
PERSONALIZED ITEMS

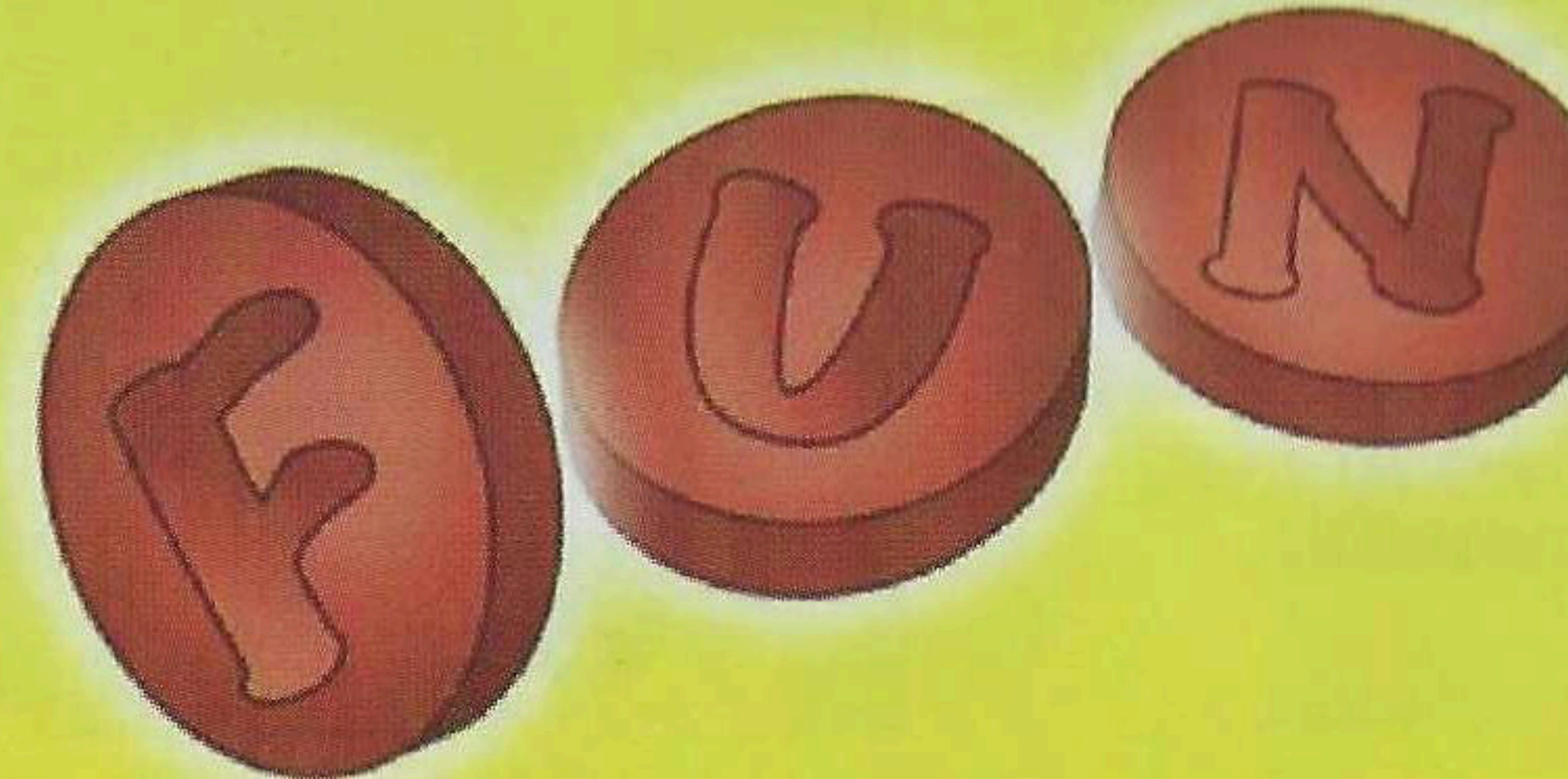
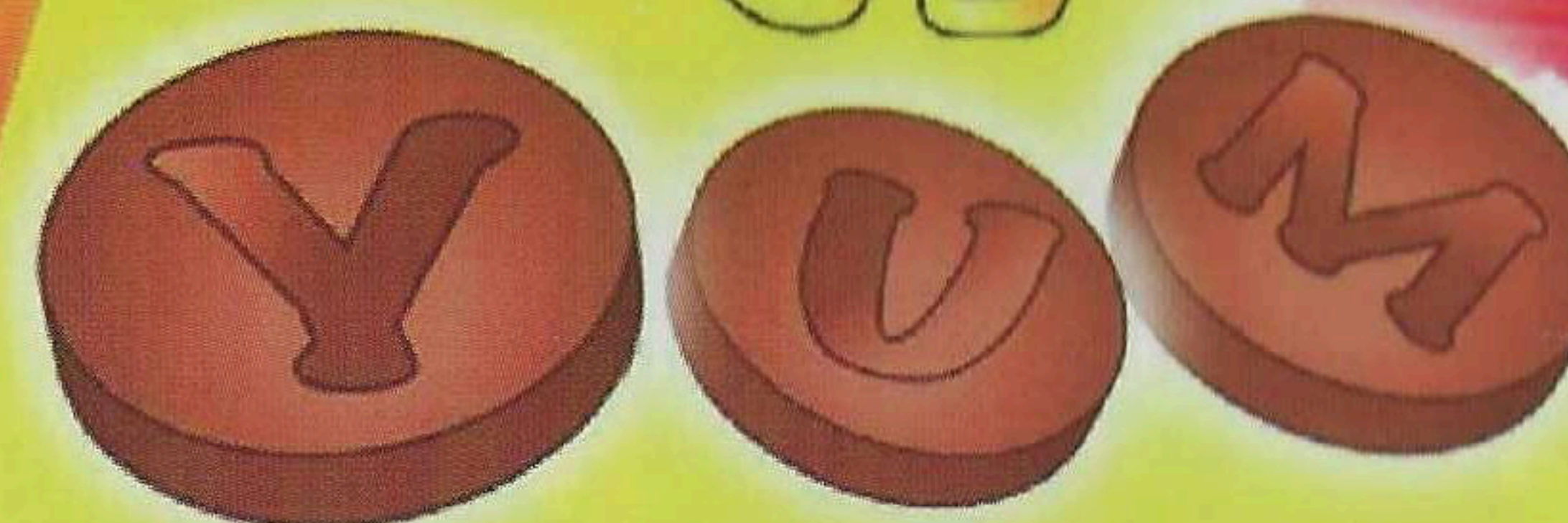


E2D4G

Have fun creating
words with

Ovaltine

Candy





INBOX



Myka Angelica Diente

Konbanwa! Otaku Asia Magazine
I am Eimee Vance Dayucos
I am your fan of your mag and I am so
happy because all my favorite anime is
in your mag I hope I have more
published anime magazines and many
people would still be happy and right
now many people buy magazines

-Eimee Vance Dayucos

Hello Otaku Asia just here to express
my gratitude for all of your hardwork.
Please continue to publish articles
regarding animes and the like
please feature Shigatsu wa Kimi no
Uso and Fate/Stay Night Unlimited
Bladeworks in your next issue!

- Fidel Visperas

Hello OTAKU ASIA team and readers!!
can I have a request? Please feature
Trinity Seven and Inou Battle wa
Nichijou-kei no Naka de.. and also
please feature Love Live! School Idol
Festival, J-Stars Victory VS and Tales of
Hearts R on ur Gamers Arena .
Arigatou gozaimasu!!!!

-Ryosuke Hiiragi Okuda

Konichiwa! Otaku Asia Anime Magazine!
Watshi wa Ronnie! I really like all your
magazine because of your magazine I know
what is the newest anime and manga.
Arigatou! Sometime I will draw something
and post it here. I really love anime and all
kind of stuff. thank you for all the time you
made a Otaku Magazine.

-Ronnie Bulala

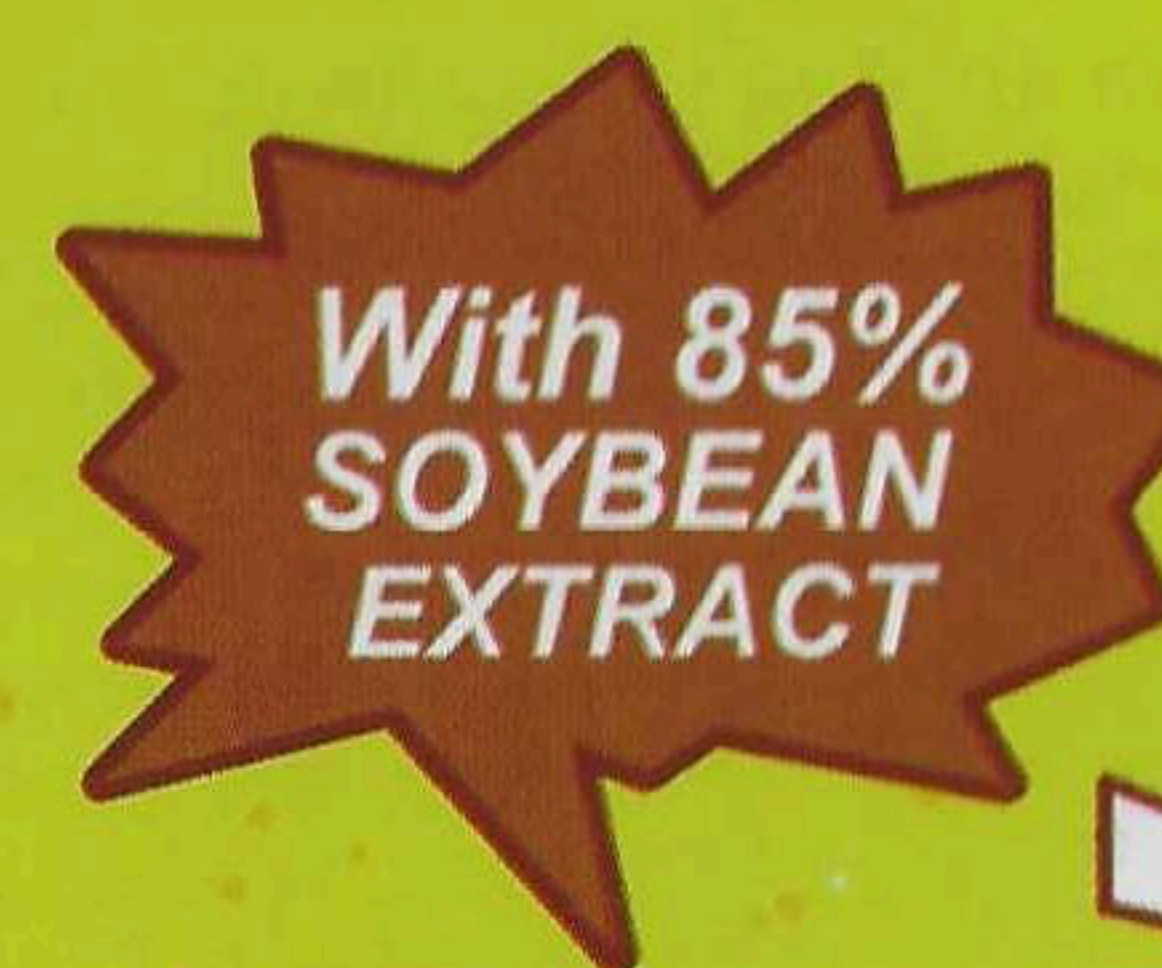


Konichiwa, Otaku Asia~
I REALLY enjoy reading your magazine~
I learned how to cook somehow~
Your reviews about certain animes really
help a lot whenever I look for a new one to
watch and I gotta say, you guys never failed!
So really, thanks for everything!
Oh, and here's a fan art of Inori~

-Ayumi Mizore



Aira Catibayan



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Konnichiwa minna's I really like your mag, when I buy my first mag your october to november issue. Wow! I was surprised, when I open it, cool, I have now a poster of my favorite anime tokyo ghoul, coz I was born a anime lover, check out my own anime and my future manga that titled Zero hell. Hope you post this to your mag, I'm david proud to be a otakucians 4ever.

- David Yong



Konnichiwa Otaku Asia! Thanks po pala sa pagfeature ng gawa ko dahil doon na inspire po ako. Ito po pala yung collection kasama yung art work ko fan na fan nyo po talaga ako. Sana po ma-feature nyo po ito sa next issue nyo para po sa mga best friends ko na magbibirthday hahahaha! yun lang po at more power po sa magazine nyo!

Ahhh! binabati ko pala yung family ko na na inspire nung nakita yung artwork sa magazine sina papa Orly at mama Cleofe ganun din yung kapatid ko sina Julius, Elaine at Adrian. at mga BT102A sina Margelyn, Hazel, Adonis, Edmund, Ronel, Lorraine, Kristine, Marjorie, Ysa, Maygan, Marvin, Ronel, Galvez, Errol, Kuya Erwin at sa iba pang BT120A at BT201M din at sa pina ka best friend ko sina Mark Kenneth, Kristelle, Jezza, Janzel, at si Marys ganun din po sa mga teachers ko na hindang nasasawang turuan ako yun lang po. Arigato gozaimasu! God BLESS!

-Cloienicole Elchico



I'm an avid fan/collector of your magazine and nakita ko na sa next issue nyo ay Your Lie In April.. so sana mafeature nyo po drawing ko. Thank you! Kaori x Kousei

-Marj Marquez

Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout?
Fanart to showoff?
Otaku Asia would love to hear from you!

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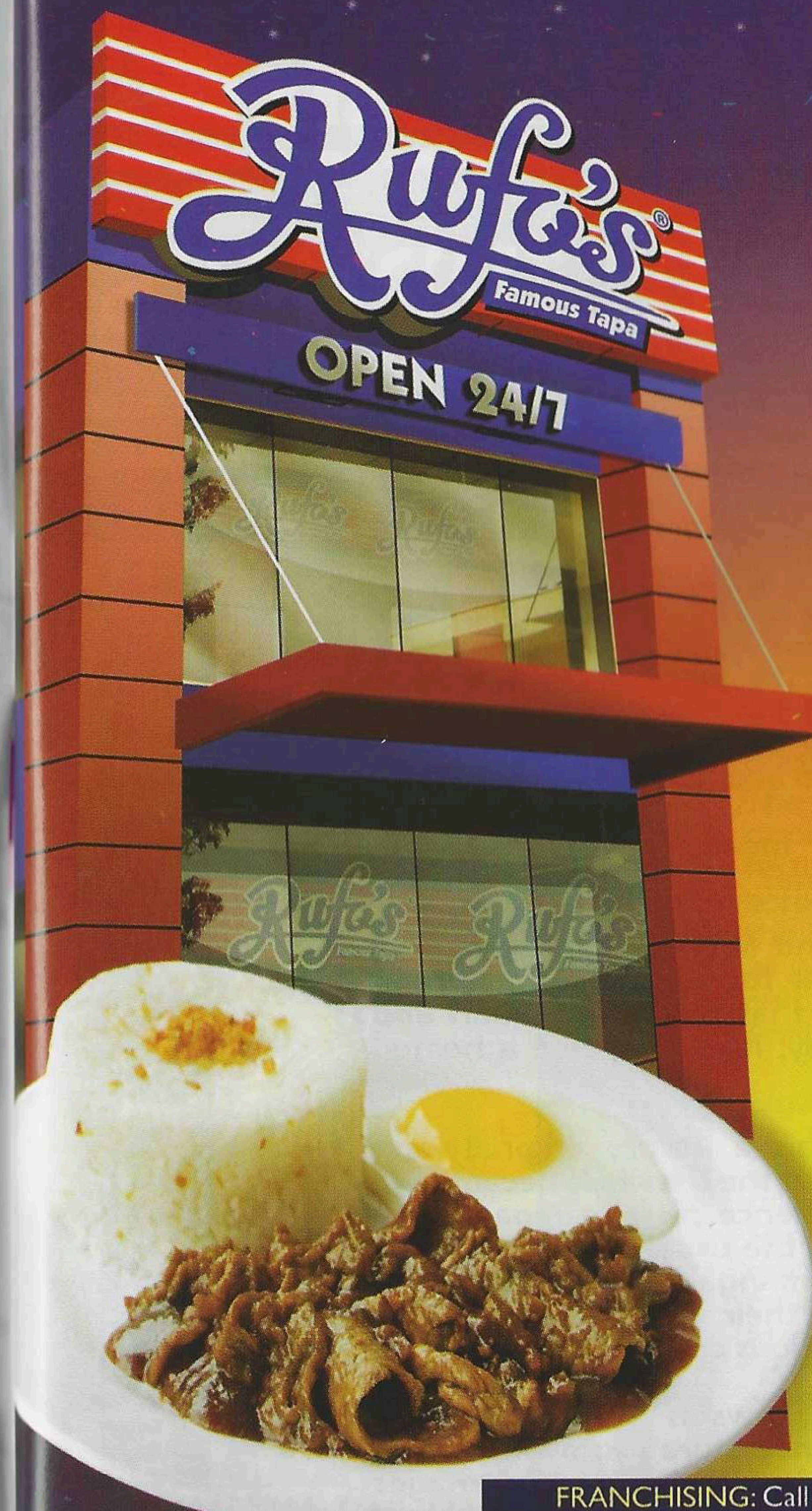
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LAWSON PHILIPPINES

by Reikisha

Recently, Lawson Asia Pacific and Puregold Price Club formed a joint venture under the name PG Lawson Company Inc. The first Lawson branch in the Philippines is located in Santa Ana, Manila and it opened on March 30, 2015. PG Lawson plans to open 50 stores by 2015 and 500 stores by 2020.

So, what does this mean to the Philippine convenience store scene?

Up until now, 7-11 and Ministop were the only ones competing for the top convenience store in the country. But now that both Family Mart and Lawson enters the fray, it will become a heated 4-way competition.

Lawson (Kabushiki Kaisha Rōson) originated in the US state of Ohio, but the franchise became the second largest convenience store in Japan. They are known for having the usual Japanese goods such as video game, manga, onigiri, and bento boxes available in their store as well as collaborations with various companies.

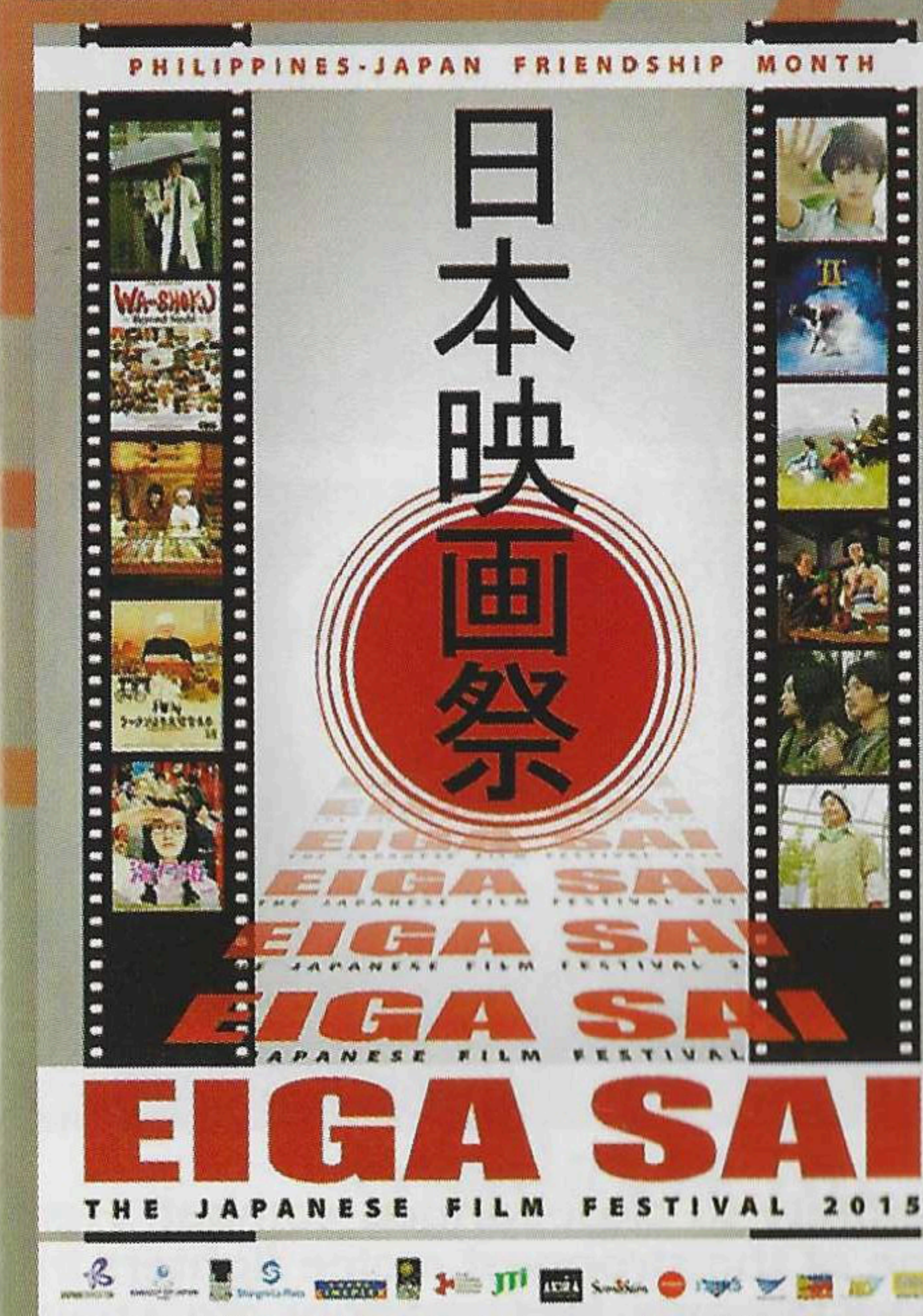
In the Philippines, Lawson will provide its expertise in convenience store's know-how and product development while Puregold manages the product procurement and localized knowledge of the retail consumers. Since Lawson is new to the country, it's early to tell if the PH branch will also have bento boxes or a collaboration with a popular anime series.

Recommended:

Lawson's black charcoal ice cream is a must-try! Mixed black charcoal and green tea ice cream is fine too. They also have meals that are with unlimited rice.

A Buffet for the Eyes

by Reikisha



It's that time of the year again, Otafans! The Japan Foundation Manila (JFM) once again hosted an annual film festival held in Manila and other regions across the country in order to celebrate the Philippines-Japan friendship month as well as promoting the Japanese arts, culture and language education in the Philippines.

Eiga-sai 2015 showcased 11 movies that fits this year's theme: "Tasteful Japan". Out of the 11 films, some of them were taken from Tokyo International Film Fest last year while others are documentaries that portray Japan's culinary world. As a bonus for the attendees, the live action adaptation of "Parasyte: The Maxim" was also shown at Eiga-sai.

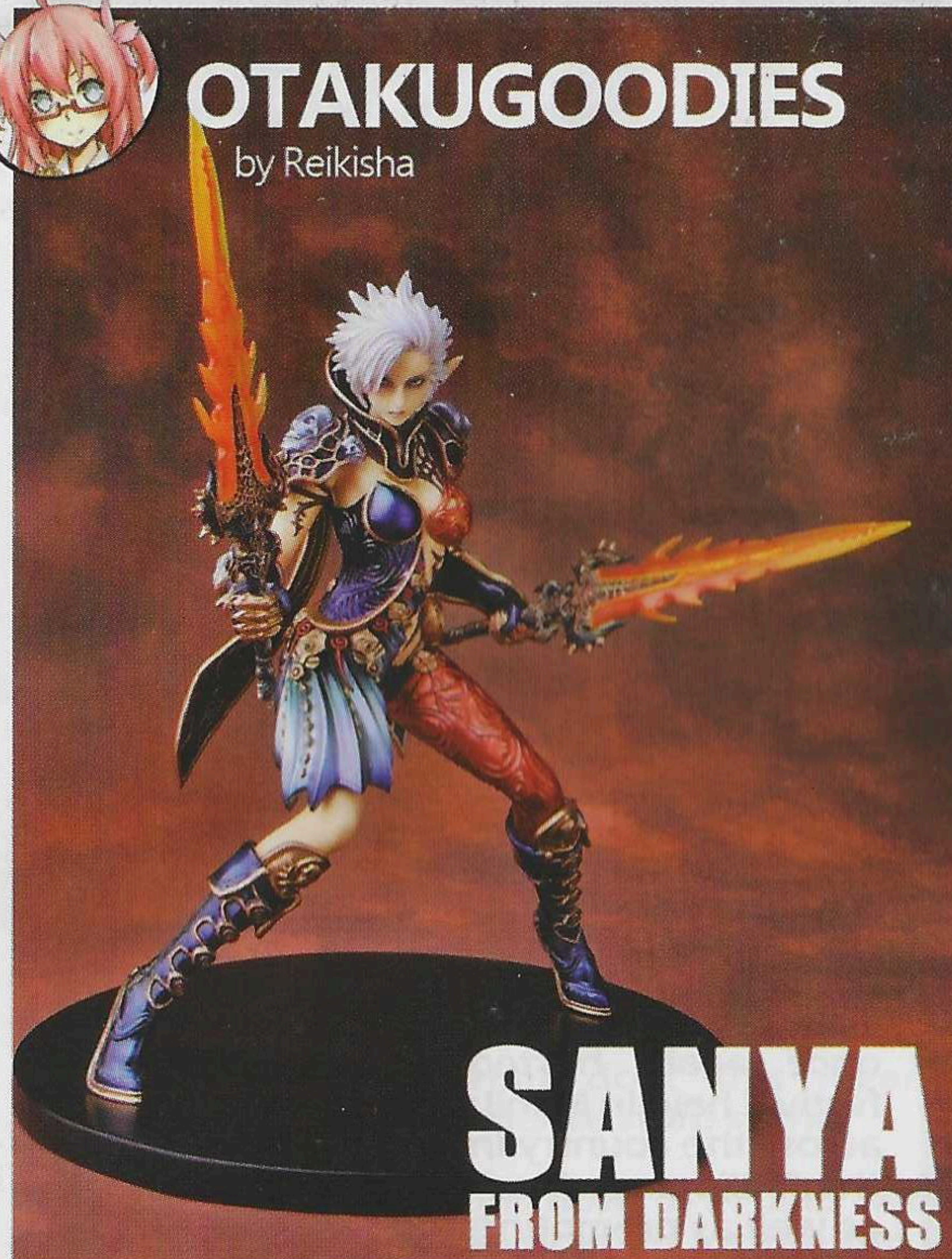
The film festival was open to public for free from July 10 to 19.





OTAKUGOODIES

by Reikisha



SANYA

FROM DARKNESS



Sanya from Darkness is an Elf with a strong affinity to close-ranged combat. Her interest in swordsmanship eventually made her one of the strongest melee fighters in her race despite possessing magic that rivals the Dark Phoenix. Her weapons are a pair of magical blades that manifests as magical reflection of her strength.

Looking at Sanya's armor will remind you of those high level armor worn by female warriors in a fantasy RPG. Her facial expression and battle stance tells you that she's ready to take on any adversary that stands in her way.

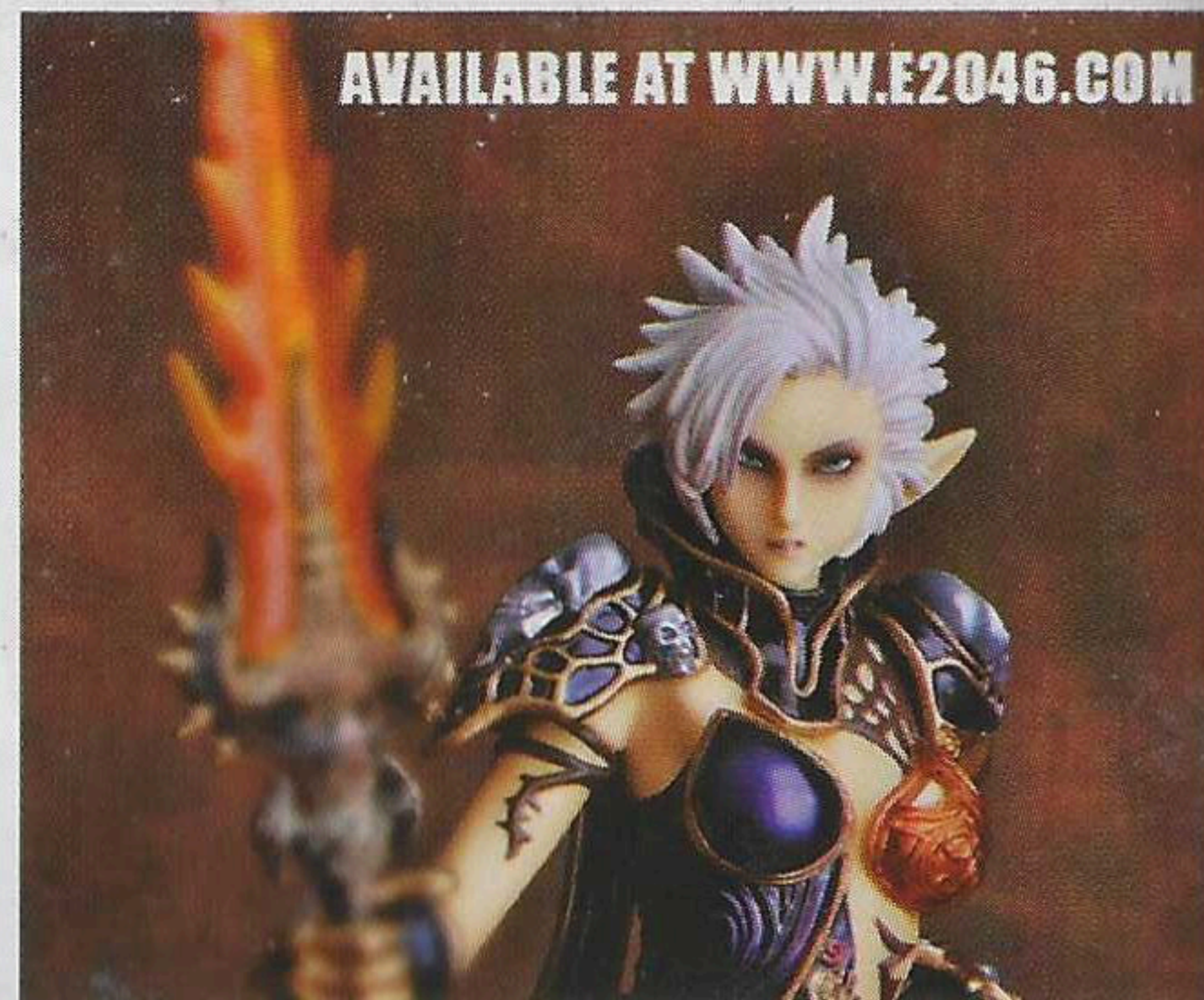
4/5 Sculpting- The figure itself is sculpted with great detail to depict what an Elven battle armor looks like. But the hair is a bit awkward to look at.

4/5 Paint- Even the smallest part of the armor is painted.

5/5 Packaging- Carried in extra package box to prevent internal damage

3.5/5 Value- It's a bit expensive for a pre-painted 1/6 scale figure and there are no VIP discounts.

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OTAKU LIFE HACKS

by kanddy

As a cosplayer myself, I found it hard to follow my cosplans. Specially when a good character suddenly comes up. I also tend to forget my cosplan if I don't write it down.

We have featured Cosplanner in the past issue #17 (Sento Isuzu cover). We have also made a tutorial in our website (otakuasia.com/2015/01/cosplanner-tutorial/).

When we got wind of the update, we contacted the creator, Cato Kusanagi if he could launch it in our event last May but it was too late. (Thank you Cato!)

We will have a run-down of it's updates to get you started.



cosplanner 2.0 update

Now you can chose between "In Process" and "Planned" types in the "New Cosplay" screen

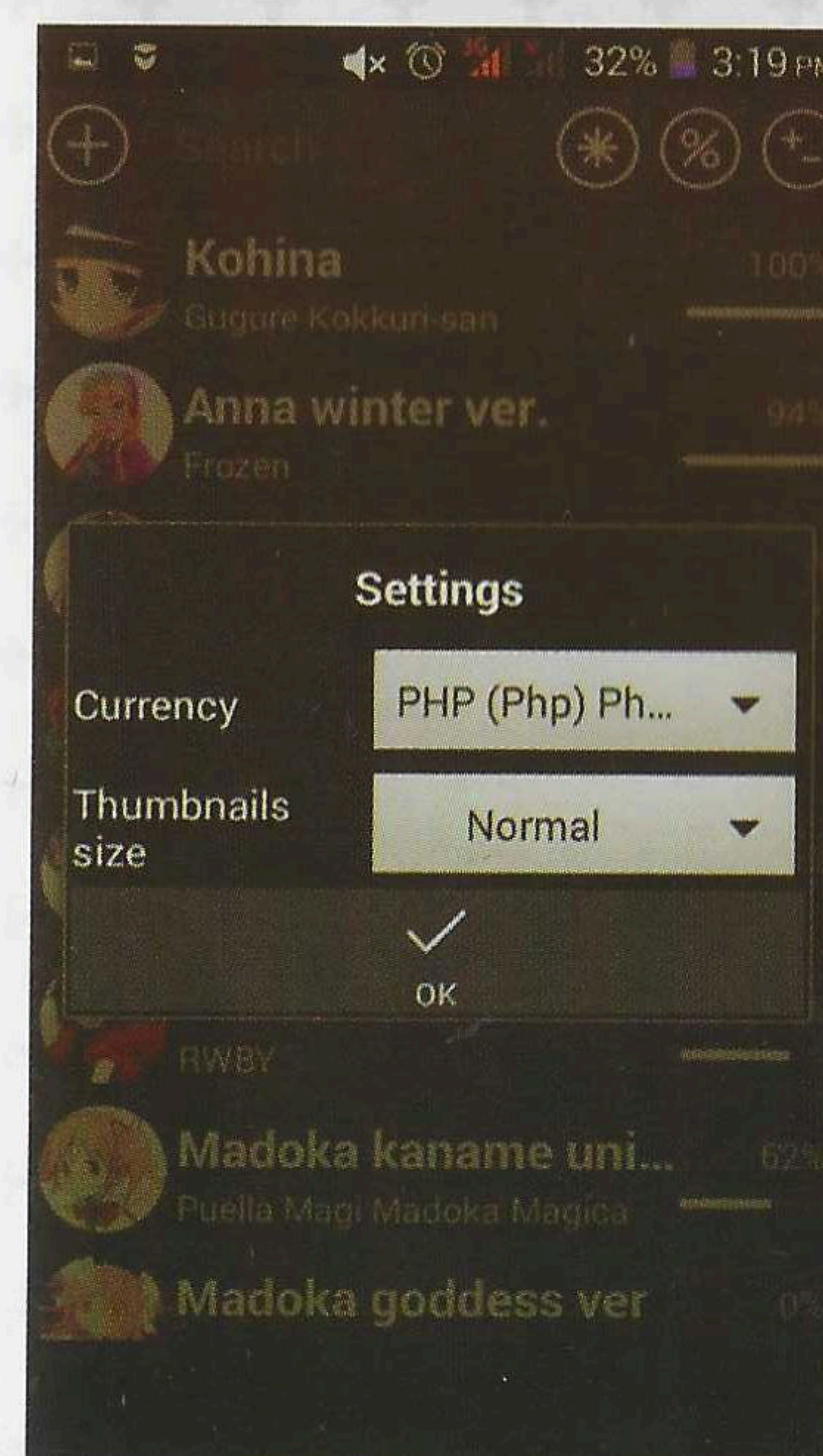
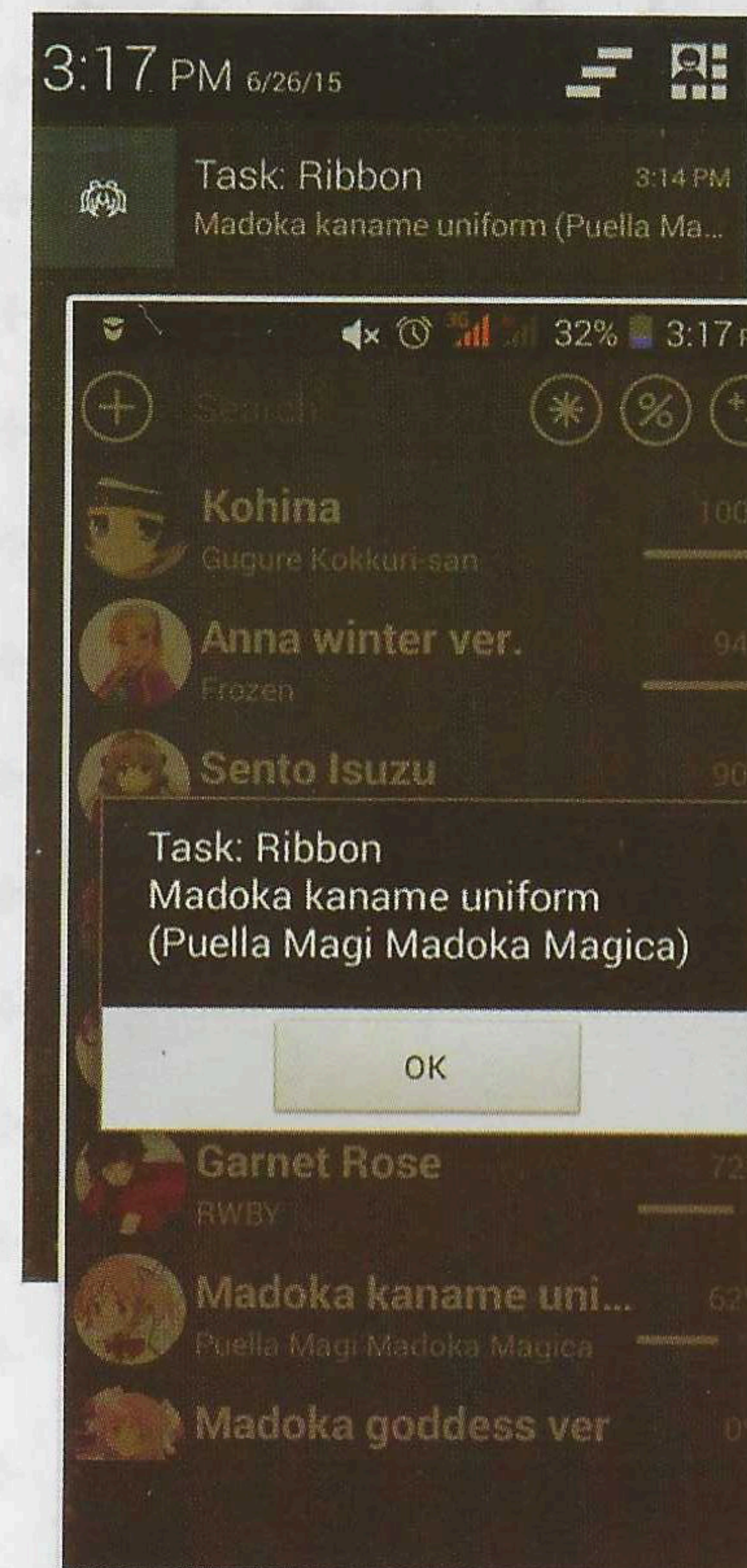
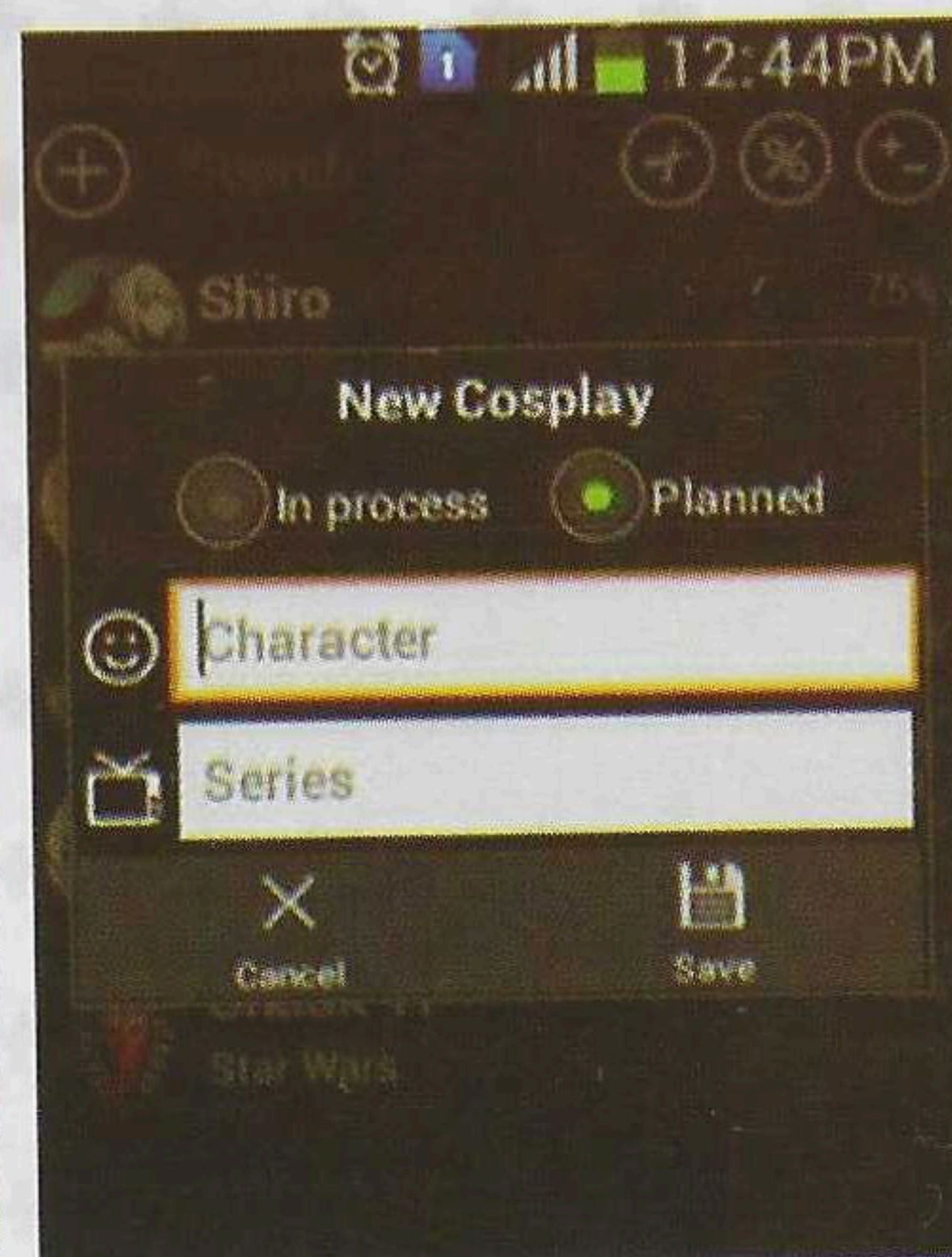
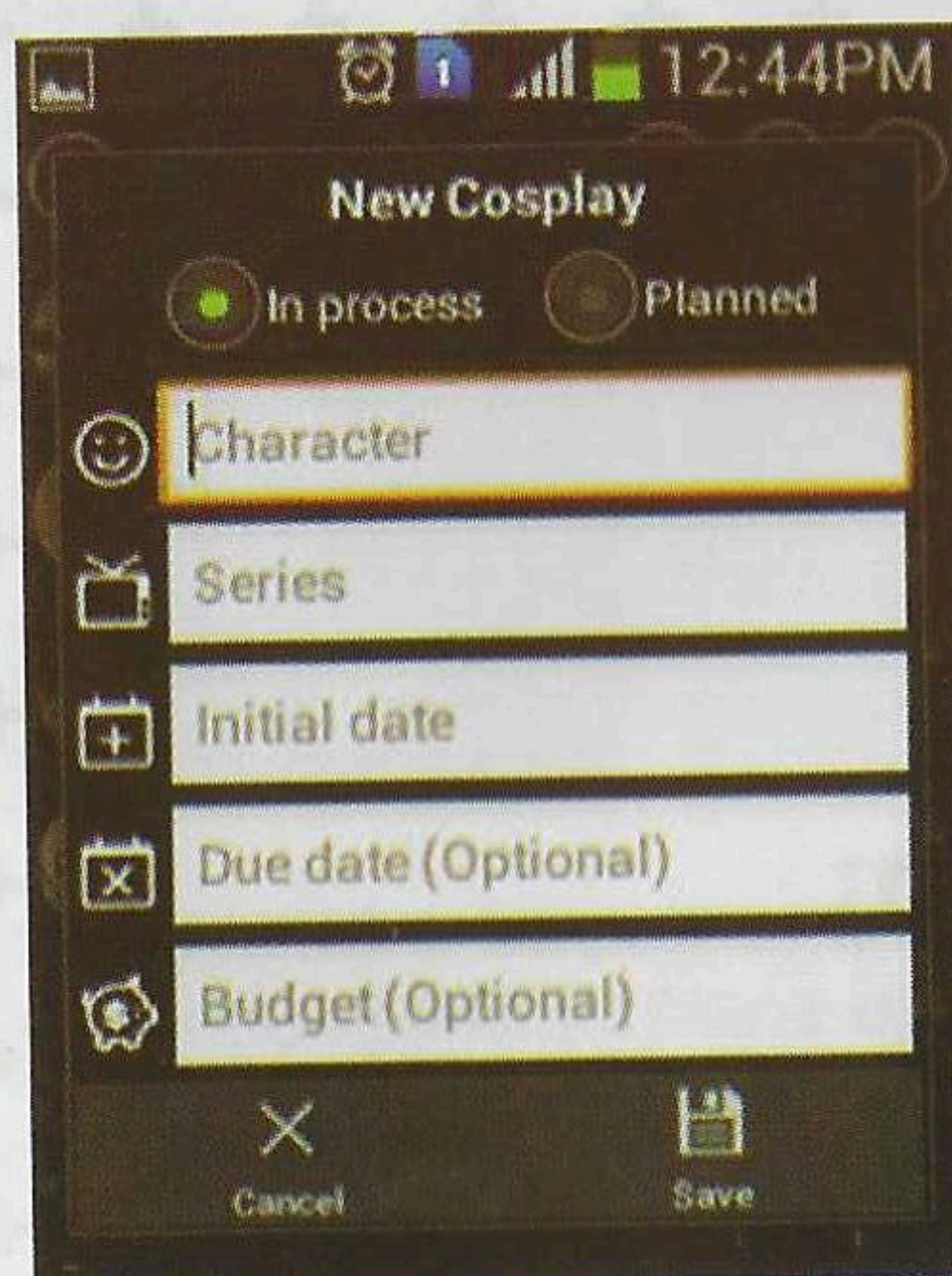
For cosplays "In process" you can select an optional "Due date" and Budget

Writing down a cosplan could be helpful even though it's not a final decision yet. You can go back and think about it next time.

Cosplanner's Planned cosplay also allows you to upload reference pics.

Android users, automatic backup enabled for all user data (but still not for photos). The backup instruction is triggered automatically. All data are associated with user's google account. If the user deletes the app, performs a factory reset or moves to a new device, the backup is restored when Cosplanner is installed again.

Important Note: Data backup is not guaranteed to be available on all Android-powered devices because this service depends of the device manufacturer, if is possible please install Cosplanner on the new device before deleting the app on the old one in order to check a successful restore.



New notification system for each task, you can set reminders for each one and the app will alert you through a notification!

In the "Edit element" screen now you can:

Change the type of an element from "buy" to "make" and vice versa - "Highlight" priority elements

Take a photo from the camera or chose an existing picture as the image of the Element

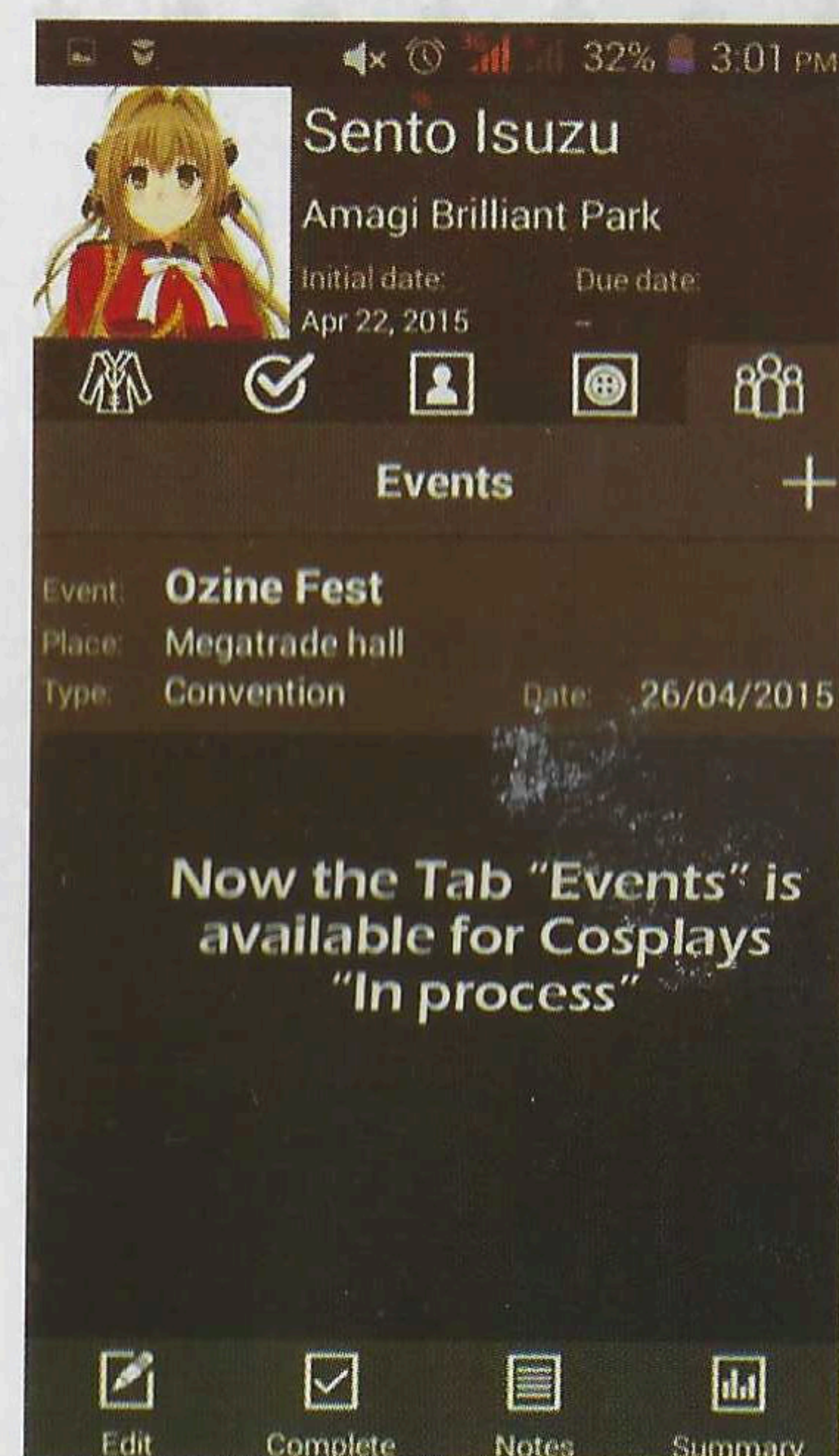
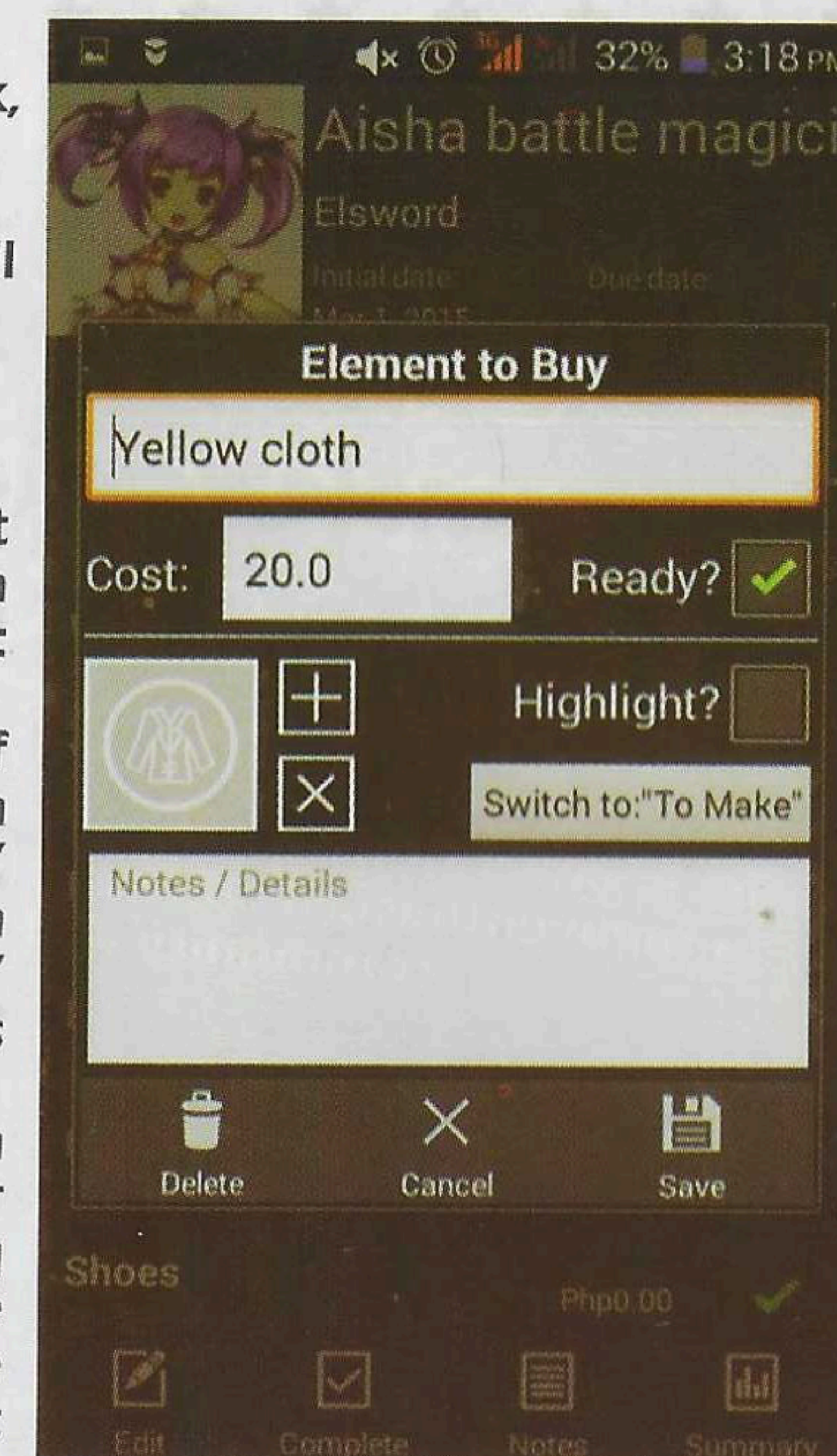
Now you can share or save the pictures from Reference Images, Process Pictures, Best Photos and Cosplay Elements.

New "Settings" menu where you can:
- Change Currency
- Change Thumbnail Size

New filters for the cosplays:
- "Planned"
- "In Process"
- "Completed"

New options for sort types:
- "Broken Percentage"
- "Tasks"
- "Due Date"
- "Remaining Time"
- "Budget"

Now you can share or save the pictures from Reference Images, Process Pictures, Best Photos and Cosplay Elements



Enjoy this app!
Thank you to Cato Kusanagi



COSPLAY ETIQUETTE 101: YOUR GUIDE TO MAKING THE MOST OUT OF COSPLAY!

What two words better capture the fun of being an anime fan than "cosplay" and "anime conventions"? While the internet has allowed us to meet and bond with fellow anime enthusiasts online, there is still a charm with physically being part of a community and personally interacting with fellow fans.

Cosplay that was first defined in Japan from as early as the 1980s. From its beginnings in Japan, it has slowly become a very significant and relevant part of anime fandom. Rarely would you see events associated with these interests that don't feature people dressing up as their favorite characters in some way or another.

This is especially true in the Philippines, where cosplay and conventions are a major part of the anime subculture. For proof, look no further than the amount of cosplay celebrities we have and the frequency and scale of anime events in this country. Even local TV celebrities have started getting into the hobby.

While it may seem like all fun and games, note that some guidelines to be followed in order to ensure a great experience. Also, while these guidelines have been assigned to certain groups of people, they are not exclusive and may overlap. Remember, it takes everyone's help to make the experience a fun and fulfilling one.

Model: Meg Balaoro Perez
Anime: Sword Art Online
Character: Yuuki Asuna
Photographer: Donnie Medina



FOR COSPLAYERS:

Friendship is Magic

Openness and being approachable is the key to building relationships, especially as a cosplayer. You will see that the way you interact with people who might have taken notice of your works plays a big part in how much you would end up enjoying the hobby. This kind of hobby is especially enjoyable if you manage to build a group.

Constructive Criticism Goes a Long Way

Cosplayers all have different experiences and backgrounds. Some may be starting out, while others may be seasoned veterans in acting, costume-making, or skits. With that comes a difference in output and production. Understand this, and should you see something which needs to be improved from a fellow cosplayer, inform him/ her nicely. It carries the point across than outright bashing. Not to mention, giving the other person tips and such could even get you closer with him/ her as a friend.

Different Yet Similar

We have around two dozens of anime airing each season. In a year, that makes more or less a hundred shows which can be watched. Expect to see people cosplaying characters from series, which you may not like. As a cosplayer, refrain from harsh words towards other fandoms. Remember that we may have different favorites when it comes to shows and characters, but we should all be united.

Golden Rule: Respect

Cosplay is a shared experience. It is the job of each individual cosplayer to show respect to others. It is just proper etiquette to do so. Be open and respect your followers and fellow cosplayer ideas and opinions.

Love the Craft

Of course, a hobby is no good if you can't enjoy it. Find appreciation for not just the art of cosplay, but the character you are trying to embody. Take in every bit of learning you could get from the more experienced people. It will surely make the hobby not only a fun experience, but a learning experience.



Model: Angel Ayanami
Game: Rage of Bahamut
Character: Fortune Fairy
Photographer: Aileen Omana

FOR CON-GOERS:

Respect the Venue

As someone who visits anime conventions, remember to respect the venue. It is there for everyone to share and use, so remember that it is also your responsibility take care of it. Avoid littering and making a mess on the venue.

They Need Personal Space too!

Take note of the cosplayers' personal space. First of all, refrain from sudden, impulsive physical contact with the cosplayer. Especially if they are strangers. Second, do not cut in on their normal activities or interrupt them for the sake of a photo. Like when they are eating, talking or fixing their costume. Know that these cosplayers are people with their own lives as well. Treat them with respect for their personal needs.

Ask for Permission

It is customary to always mind your manners and politely ask for permission before any form of photography. Should you want to photograph the cosplayer in a certain pose or with someone else, make sure to get approval as well. Cosplayers have the right to refuse poses or photographs which they might personally find uncomfortable.

You're Not Alone

When it comes to conventions, expect crowds. With that in mind, always make sure to mind the convenience and comfort of other people around you. Shouting or squealing cannot be avoided in an event, but please make sure to somehow channel your emotions in a way that it will not disturb others. Also, don't block the door, passages or hallways.

Become a Master of Words

It is inevitable that we would find something to comment about in every convention. It may be directed towards the cosplayers, the organizers, the sponsors, the photographers, or just about anyone, and it may be positive or negative. Know that there are always courteous ways of delivering your message to someone. Learning how to be more tact and figuring out the right words to say your opinion will go the distance in avoiding unnecessary complications.

There you have it. These etiquette guidelines aren't difficult to follow, and will surely enrich your experience in the community. Now that we have gone through some basics, here is the one last rule for everyone: HAVE FUN! May you have fun being part of the growing community!

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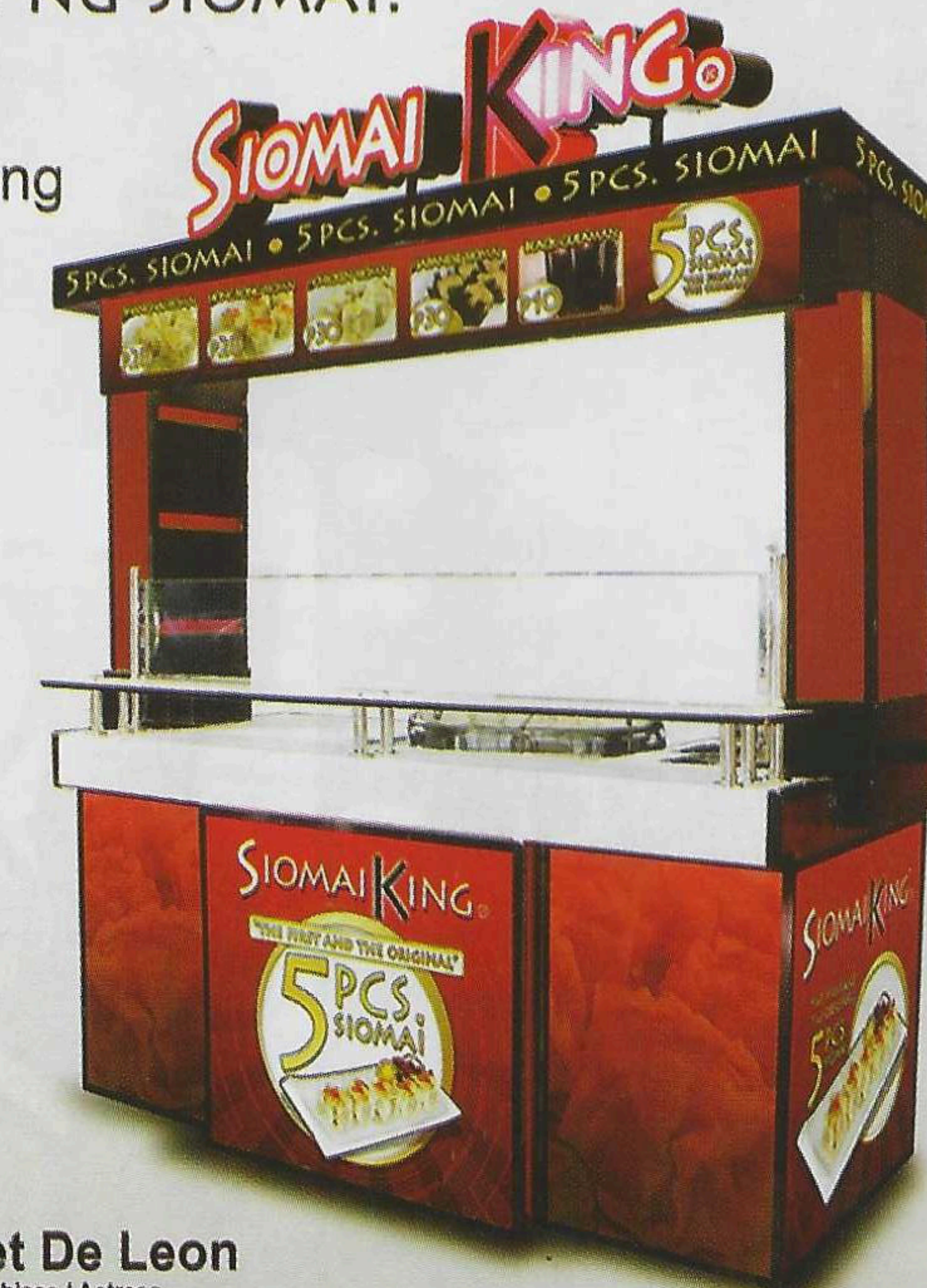
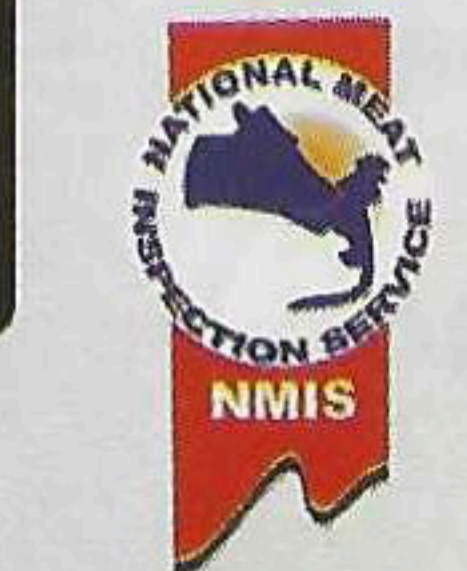
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TOY CON 2015

BATTLEFIELDS OF PLAY

AS early as 2014, toy collectors and hobbyists have been anticipating TOYCON 2015. Especially since the organizers announced that it would be held in a new venue.

April 2015 came and finally, an announcement from toyconph.com: Philippine Toys, Hobbies and Collectibles Convention 2015 will be held on June 19 to 21 at the SM Megatrade Halls 1 to 3. Even though they were not able to secure the new venue, their announcement was received with the usual excitement. Their event page on Facebook hit a thousand in just a few hours.

The Asian Comics, Toys and Hobbies Collective Inc. has organized the annual event for fourteen years! It is the longest running convention for toys in the Philippines. Every year, Toycon only gets bigger and better. During their press conference, they again promised that next year's event *will* be in SMX Convention Center Manila. This time, with certainty as they already have paid for the slot.

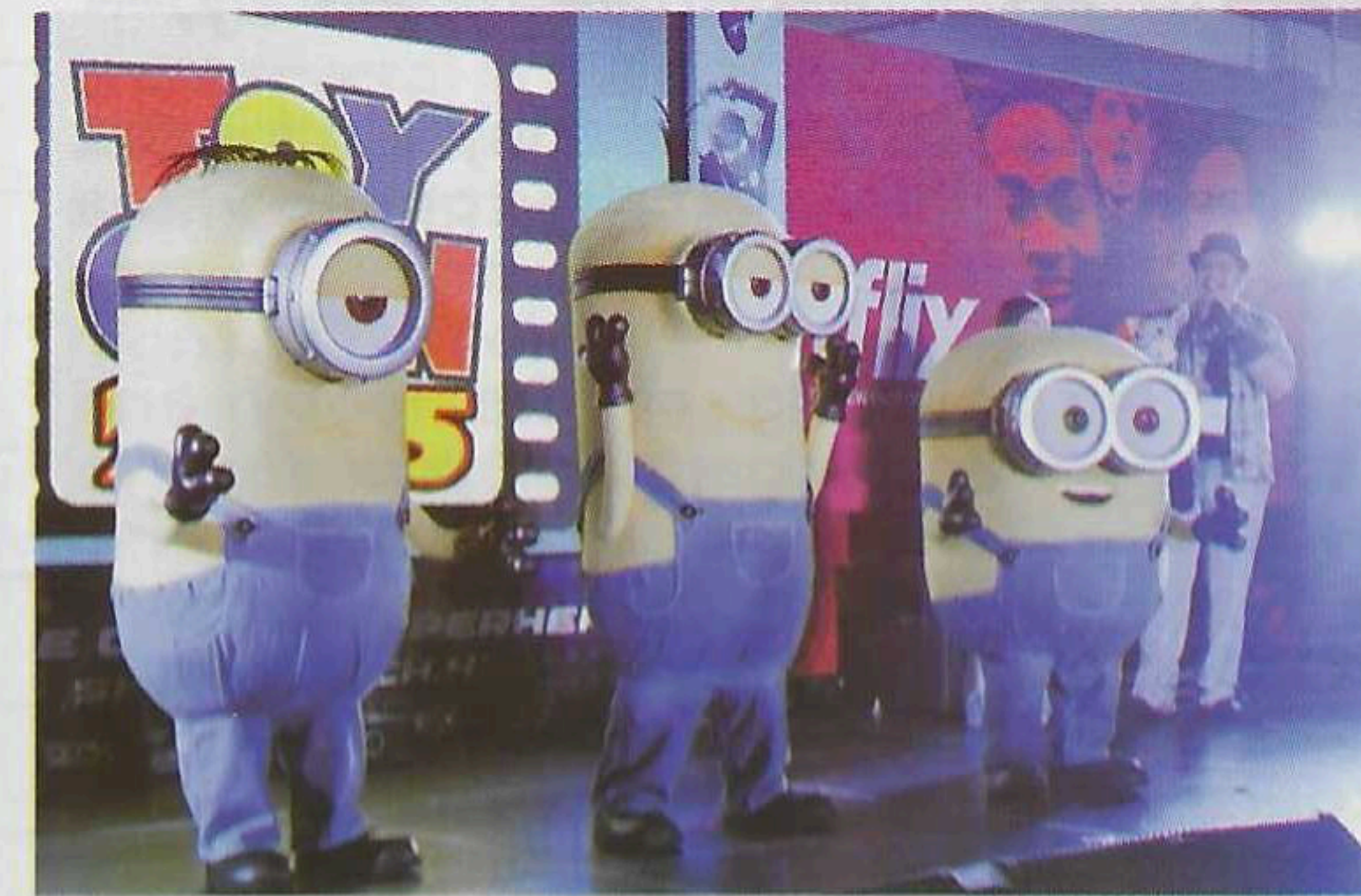
Toycon is known for it's partnership with Pacific Licensing, giving us DC content for years. This year, they are celebrating the World of DC Comics along with Authority Hoodie, who made and sold licensed DC Hoodies.

Additionally, Toycon is partnered with IFLIX, a new internet TV service in the Philippines. They bring in unlimited access to it's line up of movies and TV series. During Toycon, they gave away trial memberships and prizes.

With toys, who could forget about an iconic childhood character, Mickey Mouse? Walt Disney Pictures brought in Star Wars and Star Wars Rebels merchandise. Since we are also in the hype for comic heroes, Marvel's Antman was present.

Jurassic World and Terminator: Genisys was also previewed and highlighted by Universal Pictures.

During the event, two groups caught the most spotlight: Funko Funatic Philippines with their DJ performances and limited edition Funko Pop, and, my



personal favorite, One Sixth Republic with their Star Wars collections, costumes and special presentation.

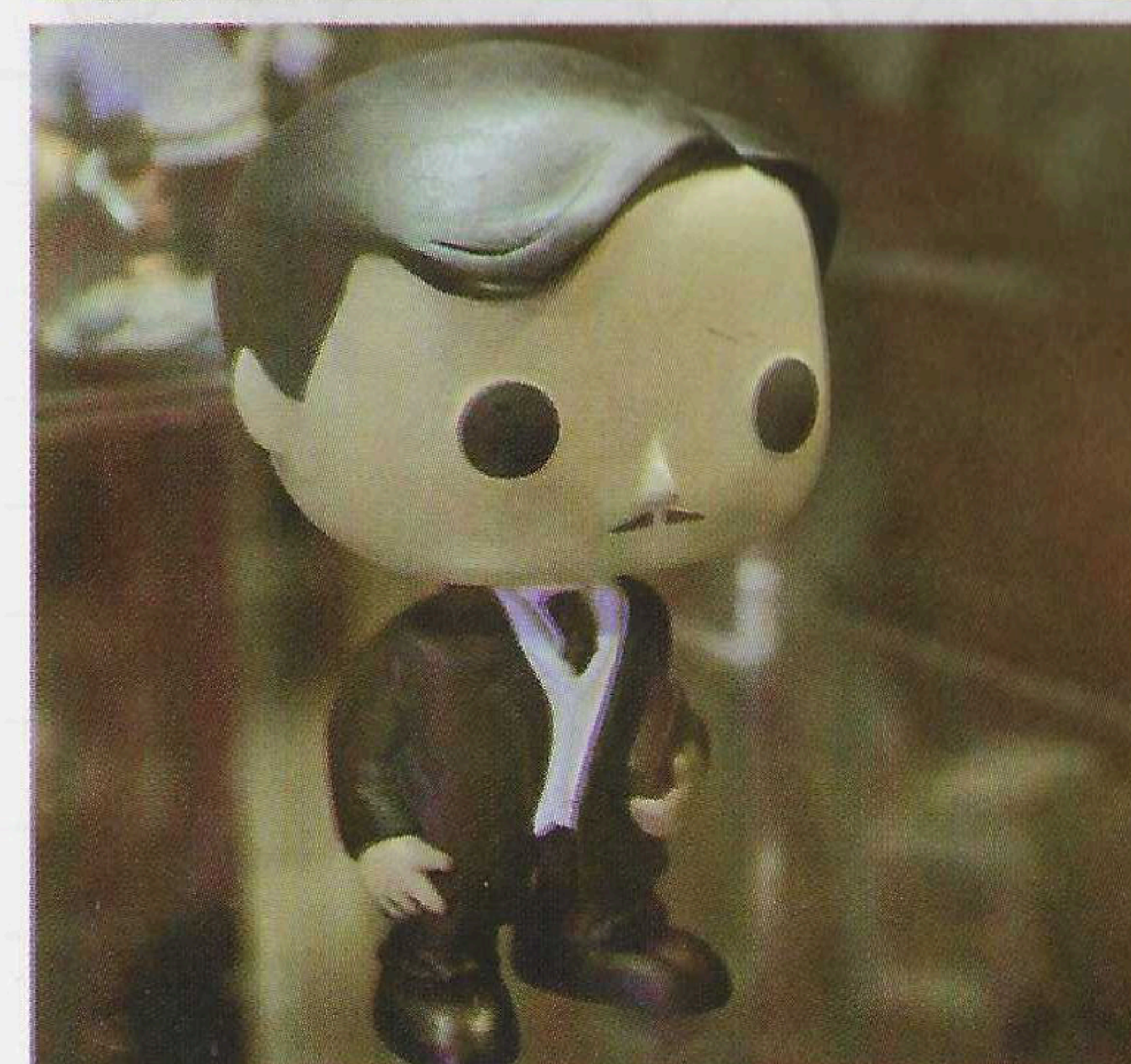
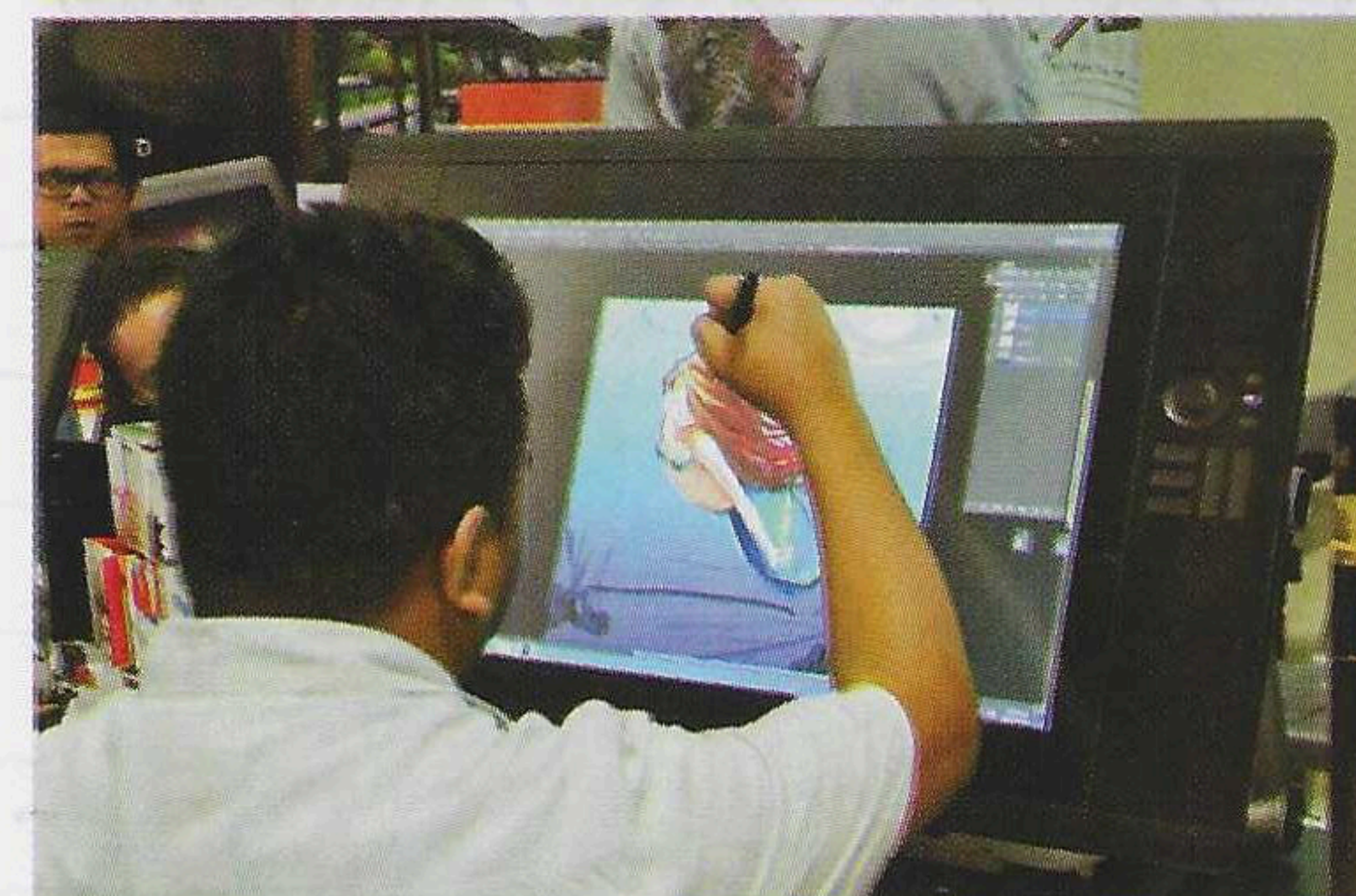
Toys were not the only highlight of Toycon. Cosplayers were very welcomed in the event. First of all, Cosplay Circle was accepting members! Right by Alodia's Gosingfiao's booth, they set up a table to accept new members and even write on a big card to greet Alodia. Speaking of the cosplay queen, she was present on day 2 to meet with her fans, judge the individual cosplay contest and support her sister, Ashley. Midnight Meetings, Ashley's band performed a set onstage.

This year is slightly different for cosplayers as Toycon and SM Megamall imposed new rules for cosplayers just days before the event:

1. Restrooms at the Fashion Hall and Chapel should not be used as a dressing room.
2. Food courts should be used for dining purposes and not as a dressing area.
3. Bulky costumes should be removed when going to the restroom or when you have to go out of the mall area/lobby.
4. Setup of photography equipment will not be allowed at the common area and walkway.
5. No loitering at the lobby and walkway. Cue properly for your turn to enter the exhibit hall.

It was widely followed by the cosplayers and photographers. Of course, we spotted a few rule breakers but not as many as you'd expect. We congratulate the attendees for their discipline.

The cosplay competitions were widely organized by Anime Alliance. They had the cosplayers fill out a form available online and onsite. With six categories, props policies and parental consent forms, the organization once again proved how good they are at cosplay competitions and events. Special thanks to our friends from Anime Alliance: Kat, Khal and Mikelle and Nat.



Not surprisingly, was the long list of toy groups who displayed their collection and works of art. The toy display was at the SM Megatrade meeting room.

We've had them last time too but it is still worth mentioning, toy makers. Ever since we partnered with E2046 with figures, we have understood the great lengths that toy making, crafting and designing your own toy. We got to see custom made Funko Pop, custom Gundam and figures. Even hobby kits of planes, tanks and ships were displayed. Once again, Lego and Coca-cola collectors took the center stage in the display area.

Surely, art will not go unappreciated. Toycon held a contest for customized toy and diorama. There was a diorama of a monster suspended in bubbling water (probably getting experimented on by evil scientists), a Darth Vader and Darth Sidious hologram and a Jurassic Park diorama. The toy design contest was also no joke as many looked amazing.

Toycon released a schedule of events and though most were not followed, we were surprised and mostly entertained by their new segment, Toycon Pop Quiz Night.

Just like your normal quiz night, there were several groups and they had to write down their answer/s in a board and raise it when the hosts says so. Most correct answers wins! This was held on the first night of Toycon.

Toycon 2015 was indeed bigger and better than the last. With simpler rules and better floor layout, Toycon showed how they are still the biggest toy convention in the country.

During Toycon, they gave away fliers announcing a new event, Asia Pop Comic Con Manila. To be held this September, 17-20 at the World Trade Center. We do not yet know the role of Toycon and their organizers in this but we will keep you updated at otakuasia.com.

You can view our photo coverage of Toycon 2015 on our Facebook page, [fb.com/otakuasiaanimemagazine](https://www.facebook.com/otakuasiaanimemagazine) and our video coverage on our Youtube, [youtube.com/user/otakuasiamagazine](https://www.youtube.com/user/otakuasiamagazine).



OTAKUGOODIES



HUBBYTE
toys and collectibles
DELIVERING HOBBINESS!

HAPPINESS?
GO FIGURE!
By Ann

YAMATO

BANPRESTO



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DAI**

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COMPANY**

KOTOBUKIYA

KAIYODO

Max Factory

Twelve years ago, a figure collector's own desire to gather the best items for a personal collection turned into a vision of helping fellow collectors to fill their heart's contents. So, in 2004, that vision turned into reality as Hubbyte Toy Store was created.

Authenticity is the promise that Hubbyte Toy Store swears to deliver with every package of anime figures. These products come straight from Japan. Hubbyte is also an official partner of Good Smile Company and is associated with Yamato, Banpresto, Alter, Bandai, Kaiyodo, and Max Factory. Their products range from Japanese toys and trading figures to Disney items and candy toys and figures and even Western figures. Still, some of the most popular ones are D-Art, S.H. Figuart, and Nendoroid. While some goods are rare finds, you can be sure that they are offering you the best price in the market!

Behind the concept of Hubbyte Toy Store is the Otakai Figure Society, which the owner of Hubbyte Toy store co-founded on March 1, 2008 in the hopes of gathering more collectors, sharing information about whereabouts of more figures, and spreading awareness against "bootlegs" or counterfeit items.

Consequently, the store is looking forward to getting more supplies from abroad. After all, the store not only seeks to invite figure collectors locally but also internationally. Definitely more connections outside will mean more goodies to the benefit of all enthusiasts here and abroad!

Hubbyte Toy Store can be reached through their Facebook page: facebook.com/hubbytetoystore or through their mobile number (0998 977 0511). They ship nationwide and in selected countries.

They offer their products in two prices, SUKI price for the members and Pre-Order price. Of course, members have discounts. To join,

SUKI Card Guidelines: <https://goo.gl/oPDQug>

SUKI Card Application Form: <https://goo.gl/11NYeg>

Hubbyte Toy Store is one of the strongest embodiments of pursuing your passion. Check out their goodies and be part of their quest of "Delivering Hobbiness."



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SKIRT POCKET TUTORIAL

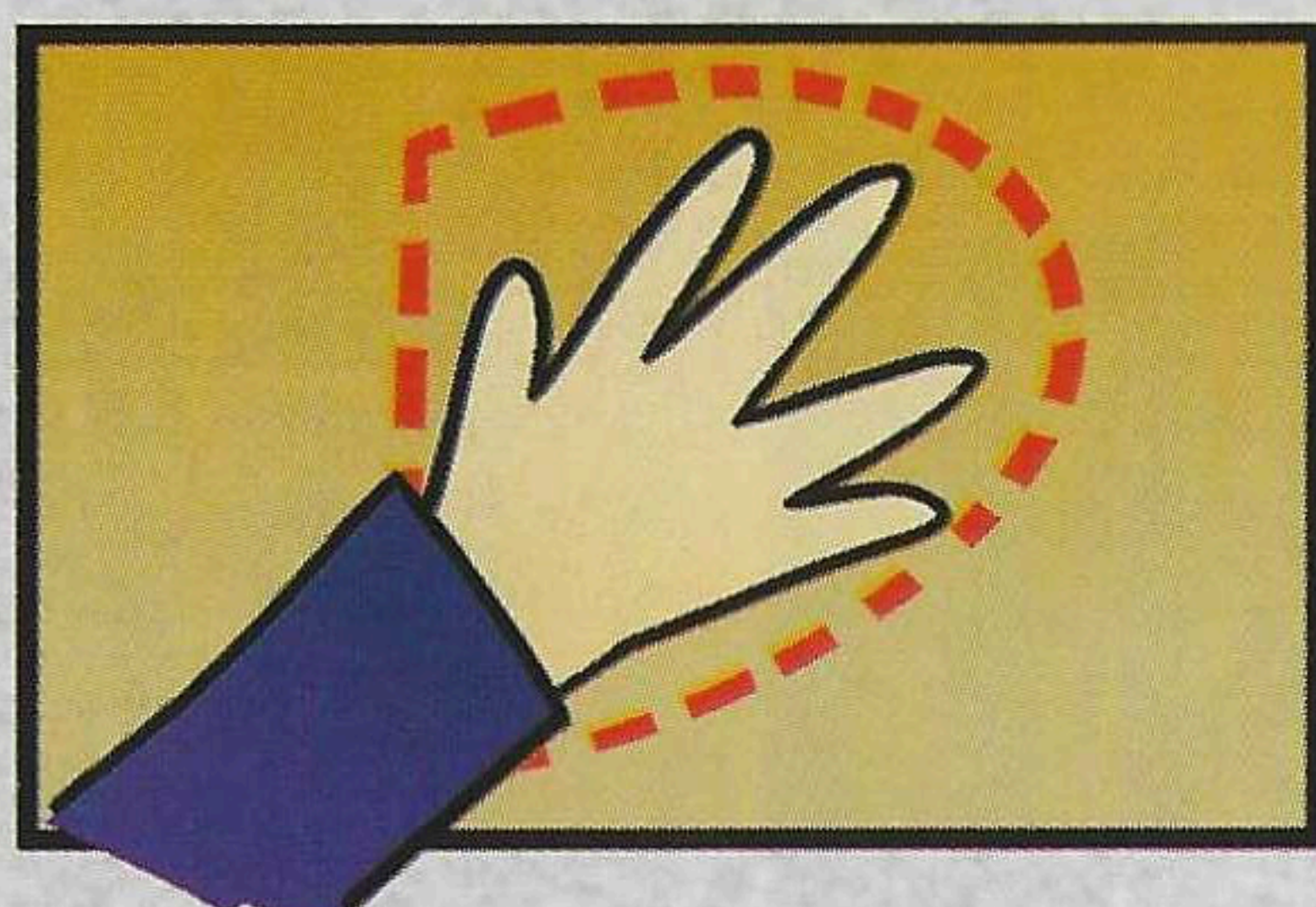
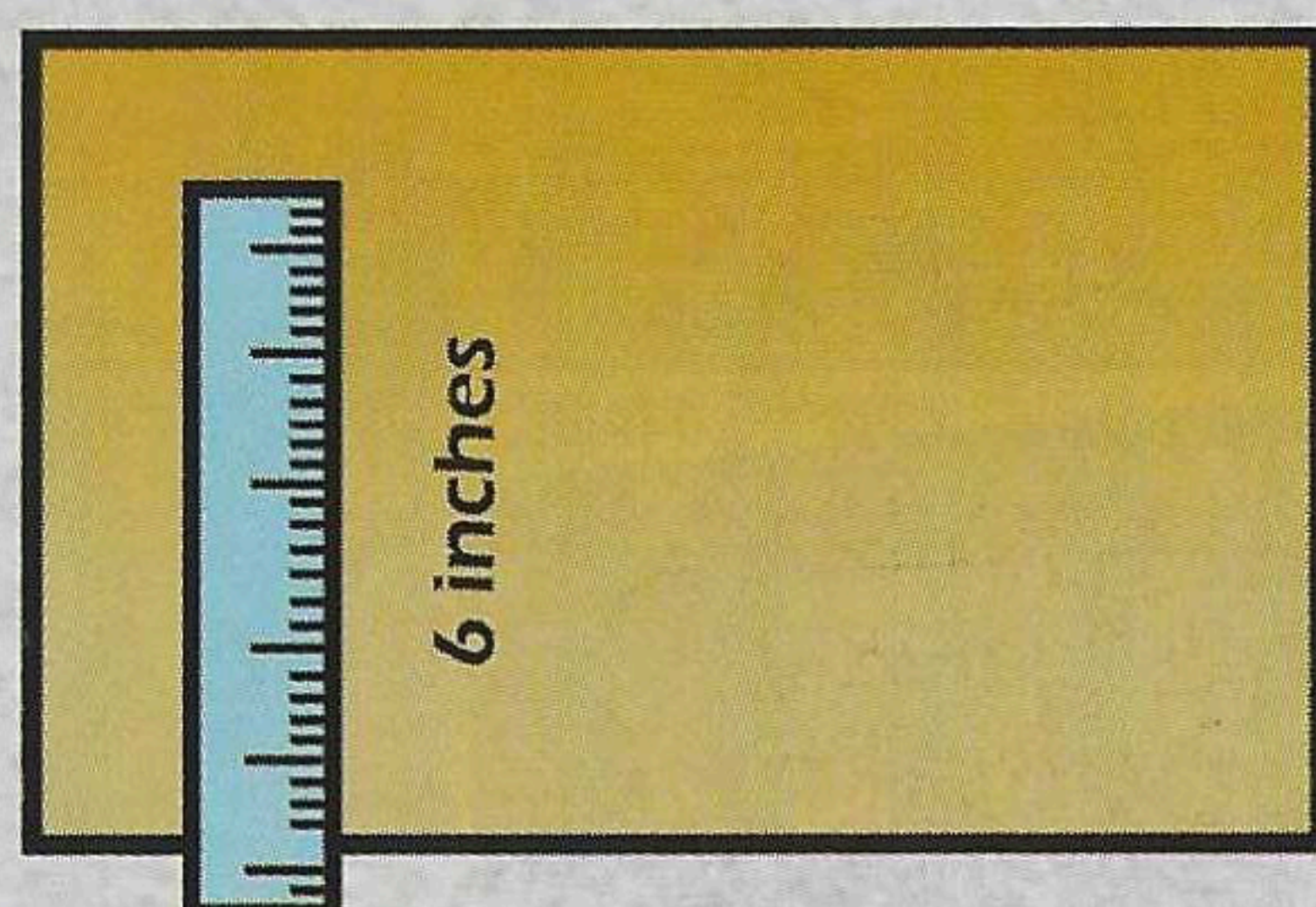
Materials needed:

- cloth similar to the skirt where you will be placing a pocket.
- skirt (one side should be open to give way for the pocket.)
- tape measure/ruler
- pencil
- tracing paper
- shears or scissors
- thread
- needle
- cloth marker
- safety pins

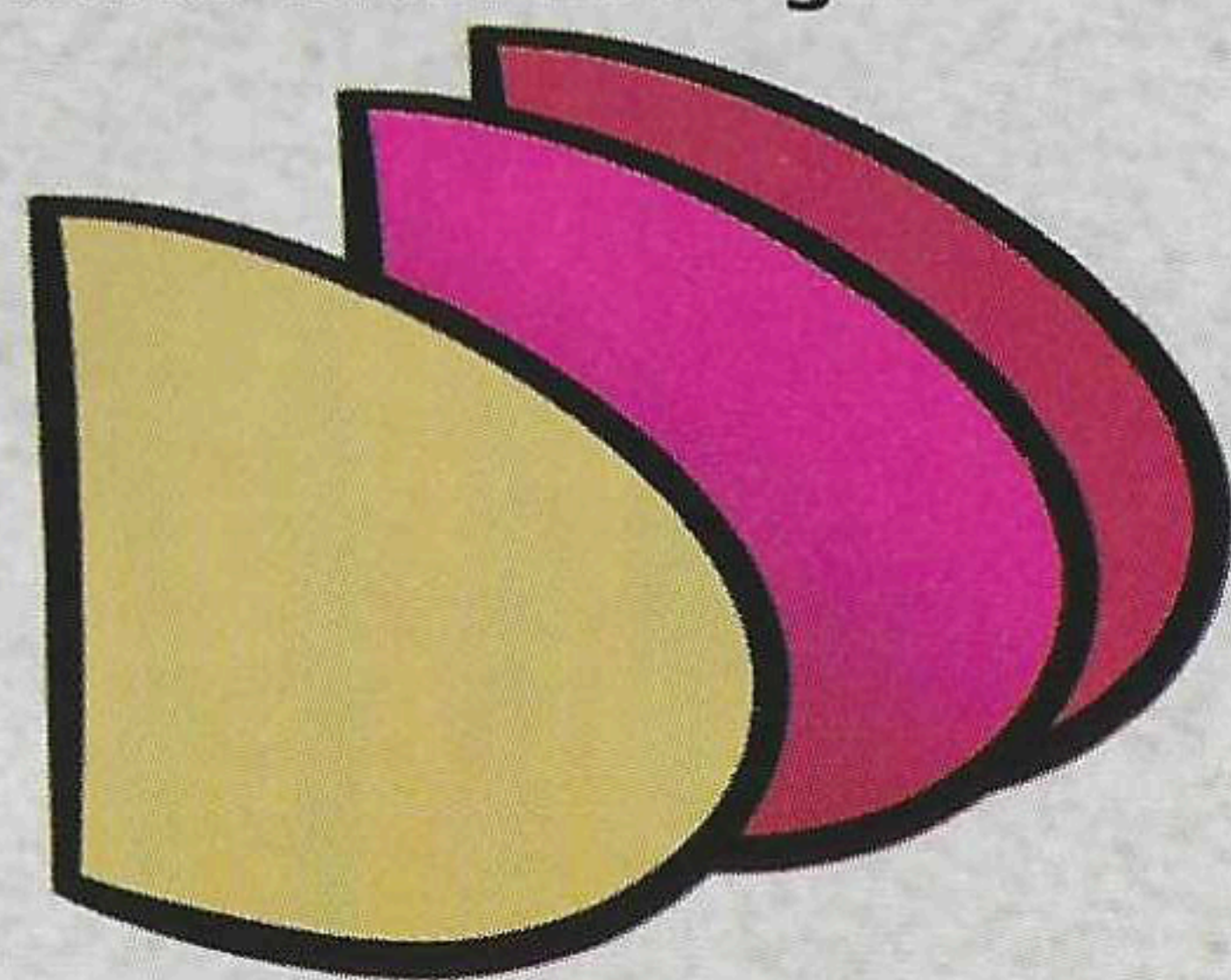
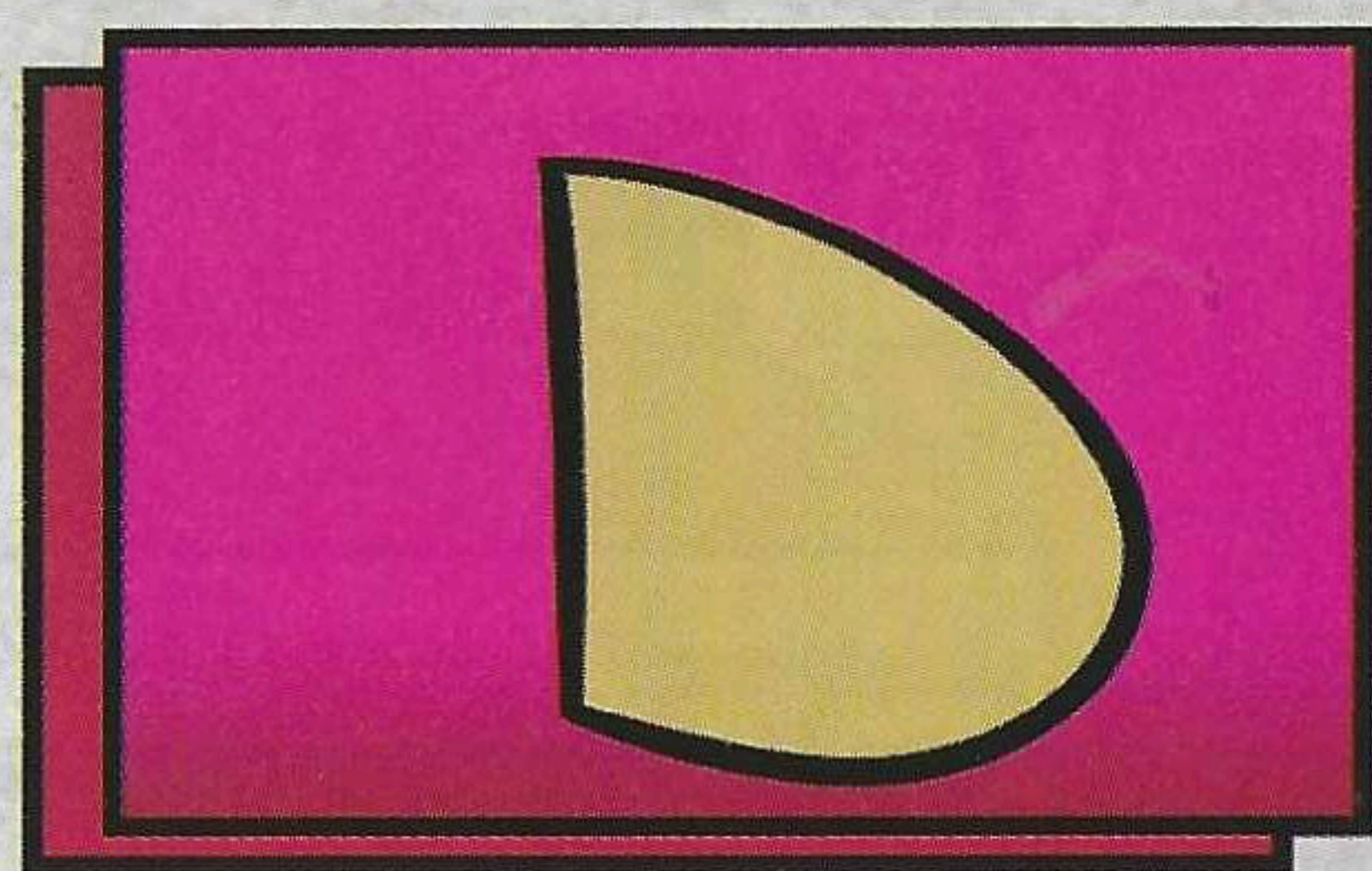


Instructions:

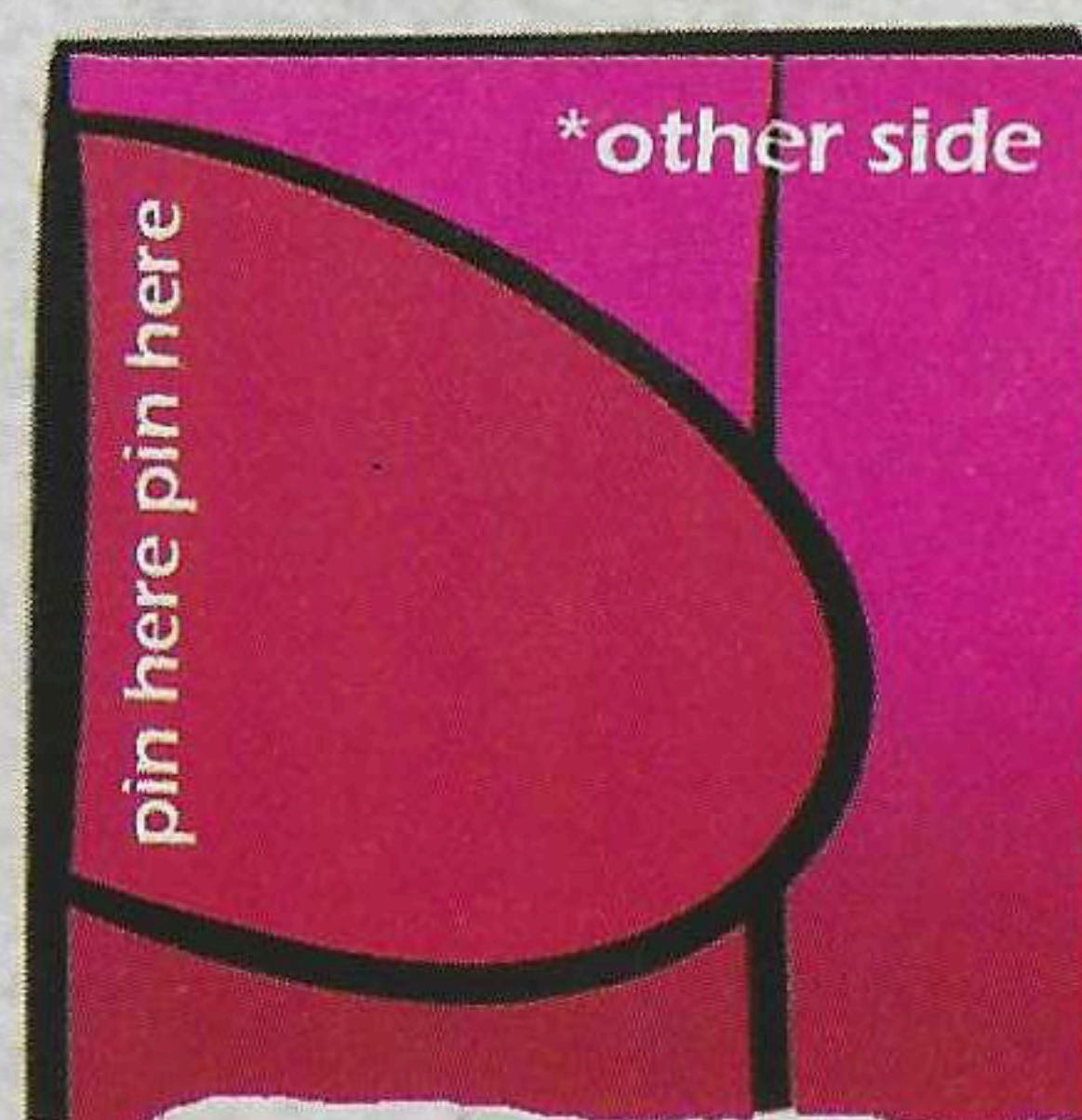
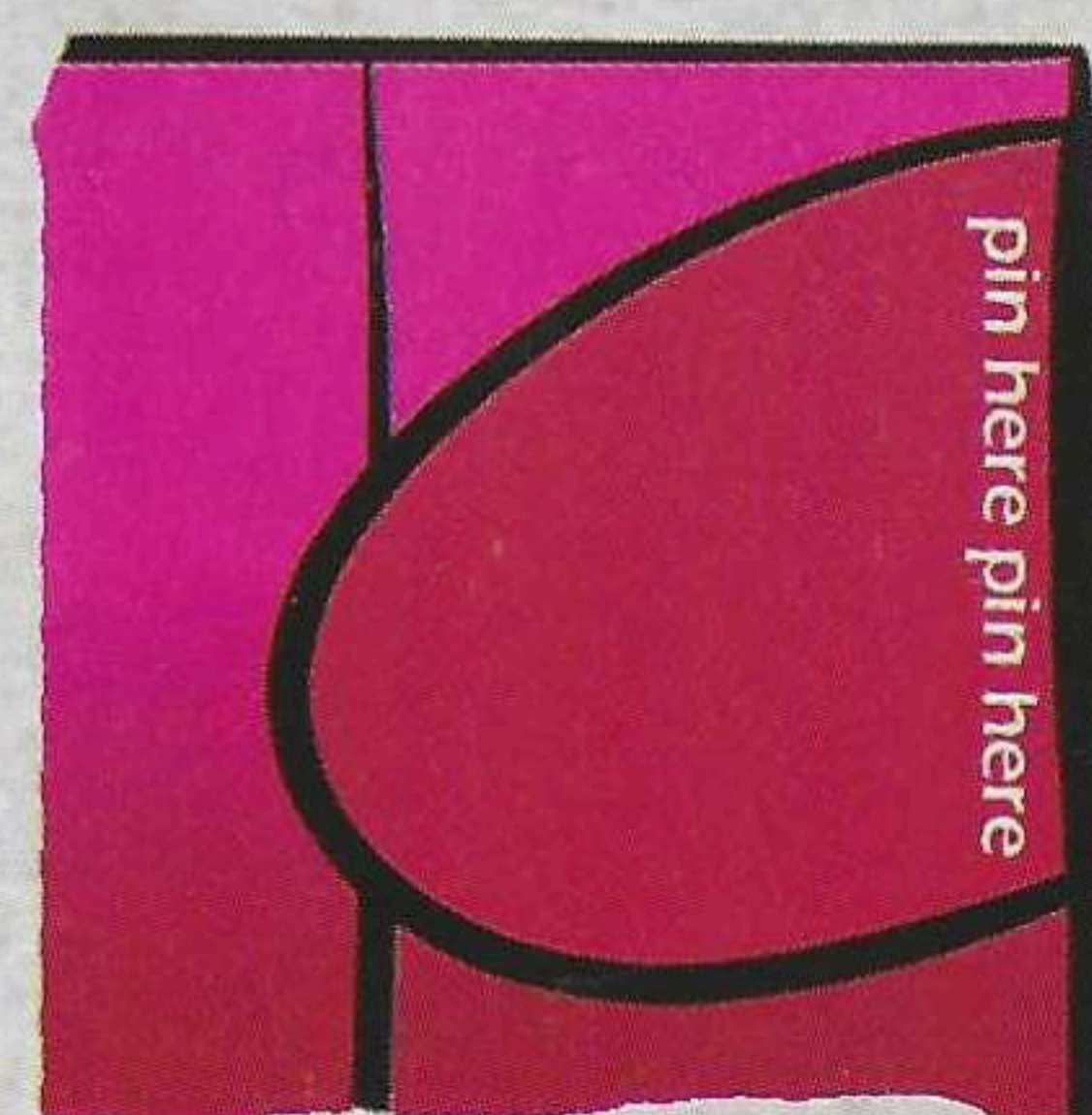
1. On the pattern paper, draw a 6 inch straight line. Then put your hand over the paper and then draw a curve similar to the image below.



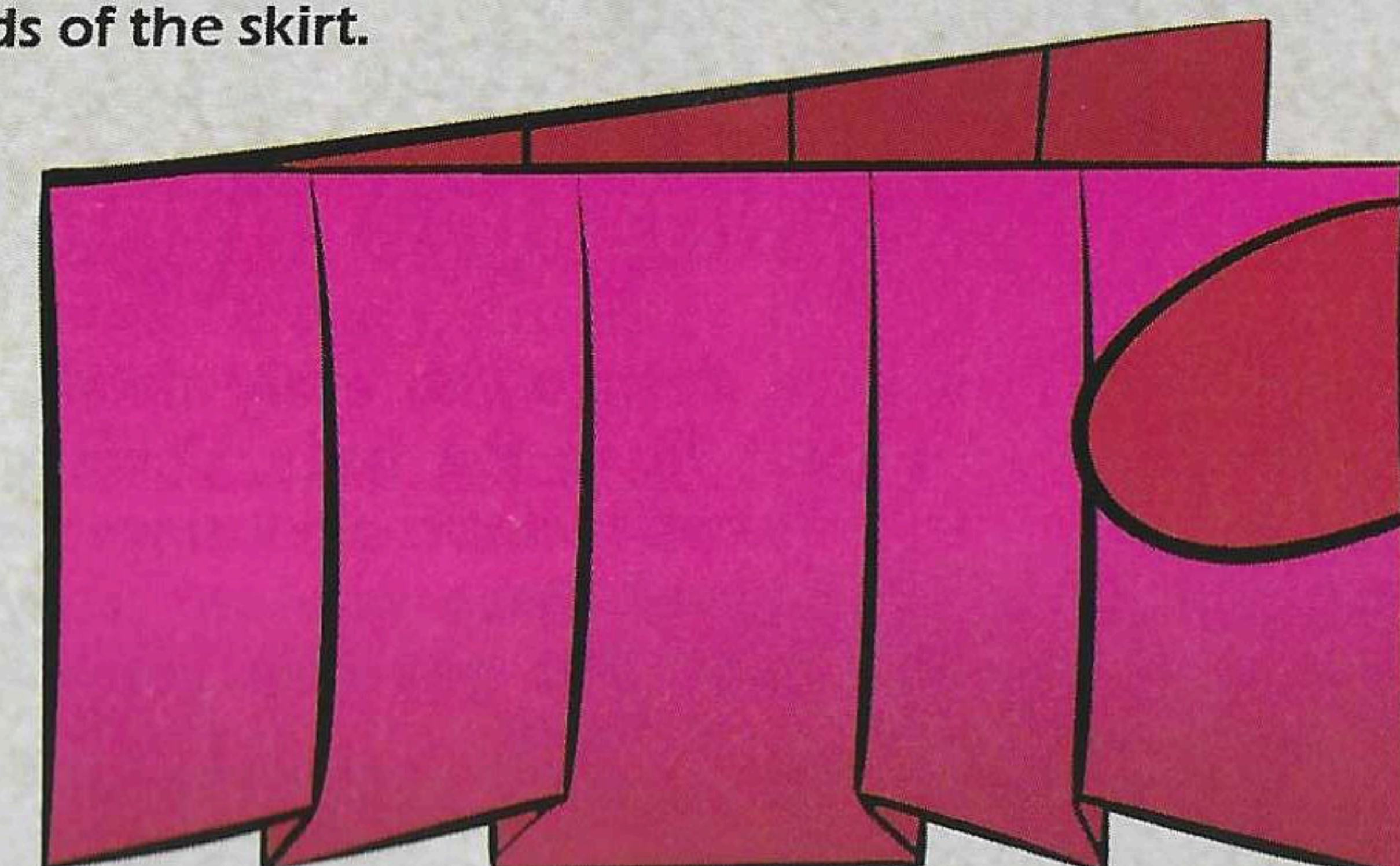
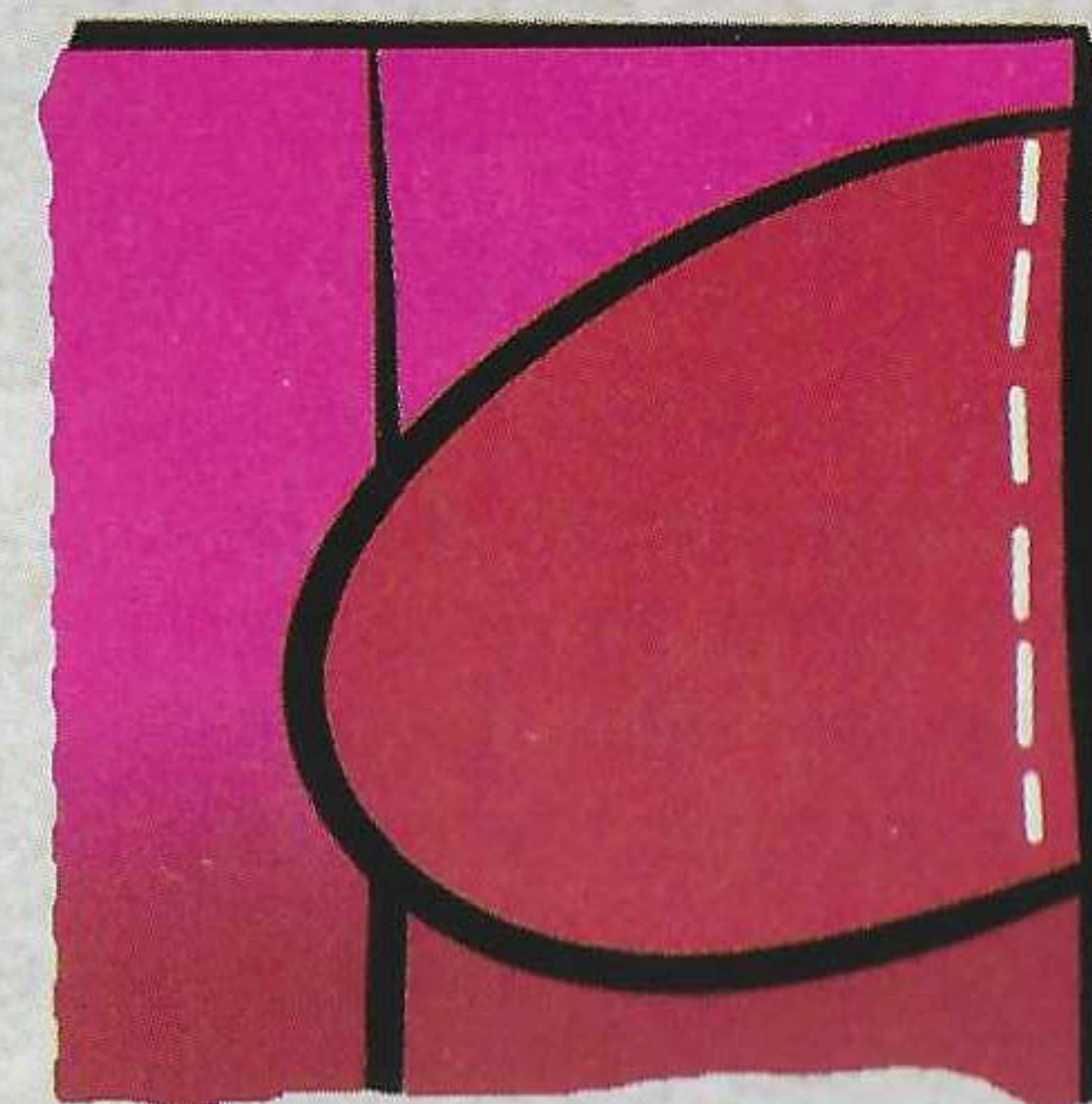
2. Place the pattern paper above the cloth. (Note: The cloth must have 2 layers below) Put safety pins so that the cloth below wouldn't move while cutting it.



3. Get the skirt where you will be putting the pockets. On each side measure 6.5 inches (.5 for the sewing allowance) on both sides. Then pin it on the sides. Remember that you need to do this at the inside part of the skirt.



4. Sew the straight part of the pocket of both sides. Refer to the image below. Remove the pins after. Then meet the ends of the skirt.



5. Flip the pockets and then align the ends; pin it and then sew it similar below.



6. Flip the skirt (the outside part should be the one visible) and there you have it~ There is a place now for your important things when going out and also cosplaying. No more worries that your bag should be with you all the time.



*Remember that this is also applicable to other kinds of skirt.



Picking the right fabrics guide

A good cosplayer pays attention to every details of the costume. From the design, the way it must fit to the body, down to the fabric that will be used to make the costume realistic. Choosing the right fabric may sound easy, but if you are one of those who are really particular with the outcome, here's a little guide that may help you decide which textile to use.

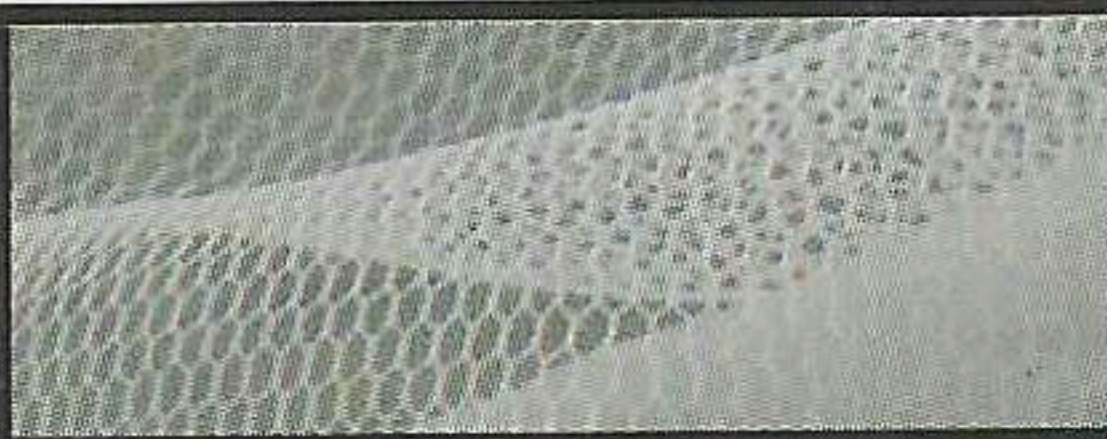


*These are estimates from Divisoria's price range.

For uniforms (coat, skirt, pants, etc.)

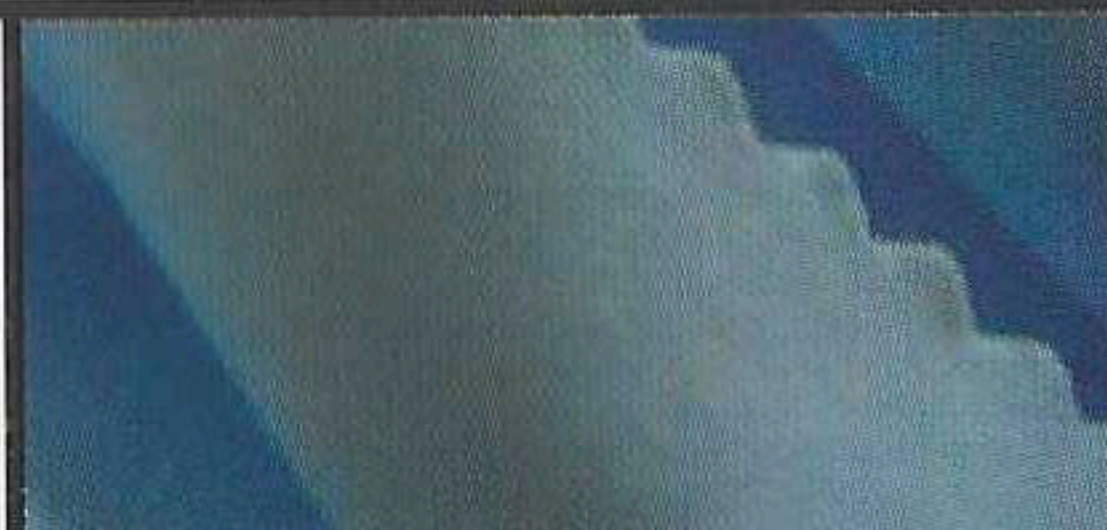


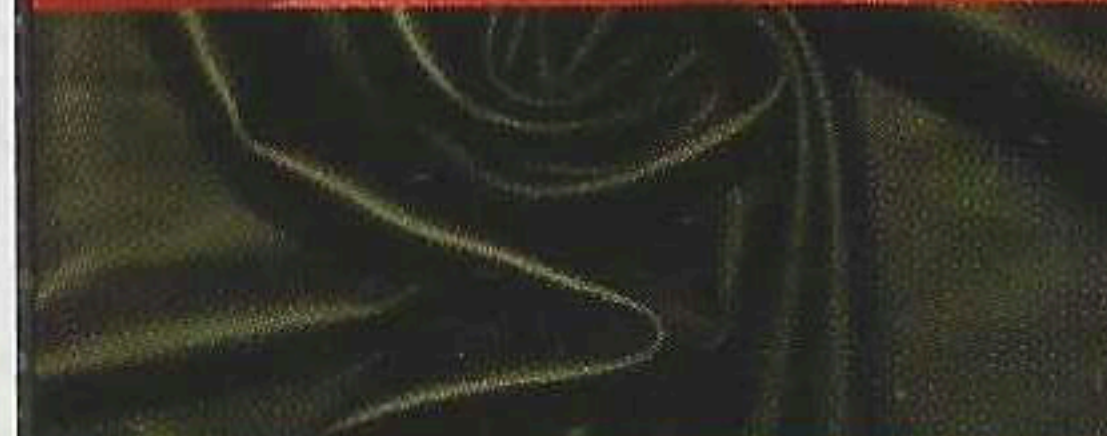

Name of fabric	Price	Description	Sample photo
Armani Wool	75-90/yd	A thick and heavy fabric. Looks good on coats since it holds shape.	
Cotton twill	110-120/yd	Matte fabric with rough texture. Has limited colors.	
Gabardine	75-85/yd	Thicker and almost same texture as Katrina.	
Katrina	35-50/yd	Basic fabric people use for cosplay, uniforms, coats. It has a matte texture and has a wide variety of colors	
Klopman	70-80/yd	A bit thicker than Peach Twill but feels softer.	
Lacoste	65-85/yd	Matte fabric with rough texture. Has limited colors.	
Tetoron	40-45/yd	A bit thicker than Geena, thinner than Katrina. It can be used for inner polos for School uniforms.	

For Dresses (Frilly dresses, maid outfits, magical girls, etc.)



Chiffon	50-55/yd	Slightly translucent fabric. It can be used as an outer layer for dresses.	
Pellon/Fillon	15-40/yd	Price depends on thickness. It has a thin or thick tissue paper texture. Used underneath the fabric to make it stiffer.	
Geena	15-25/yd	Thin flowy fabric. It can be used as lining or small details. Not advisable to be used as main fabric for a costume.	
Microfiber	50-60/yd	A smooth fabric. Thicker than Geena and Tetoron, thinner than Katrina.	
Organza	15-25/yd	It has a slim shine and semi translucent look that can be used for veil and stuff. It can be used as petticoat.	
Peach Twill	60-70/yd	Smooth and flowy cloth. Use best as default fabric for dresses with no form.	
Satin	35-50/yd	Shiny fabric. It can make a costume look cheap when used wrong. Use the reverse side if you want to lessen the shine.	
*Bridal Satin	60-80/yd	Less shine than that of the cheaper satin, normally used for gowns. Shinier than Duchess Satin.	
*Duchess Satin	75-130/yd	Thicker than the normal Satin and Bridal Satin. This is a better option if you want to use a shiny fabric that won't make your costume looking cheap.	

Tulle	15-20/yd (soft tulle) 25-50/yd (hard tulle)	It looks like a net. Tulle is commonly used for petticoats.	
Velboa	150-200/yd	It looks like velvet but the shine it gives is not as elegant.	
Velvet	250-350/yd	A furry type of fabric that has an elegant shine. Normally used for victorian gowns.	

Shirts/Bodysuits/Futuristic outfits/etc.

Stretch Cotton	100-120/yd	A light-weight stretchy fabric which is often used for t-shirts and jackets.	
Leatherette	120-180/yd	A heavy type of fabric that has a slim shine. Price depends on the quality and thickness of leather.	
Spandex	80-110/yd	A smooth and elastic fabric, often used for bodysuits and the likes.	
*Leatherette Spandex	110-130/yd	This is mostly used for body fitting leather costumes.	
*Metallic Spandex	100-140/yd	A shinier type of spandex. It has an metallic shine and has limited color varieties.	

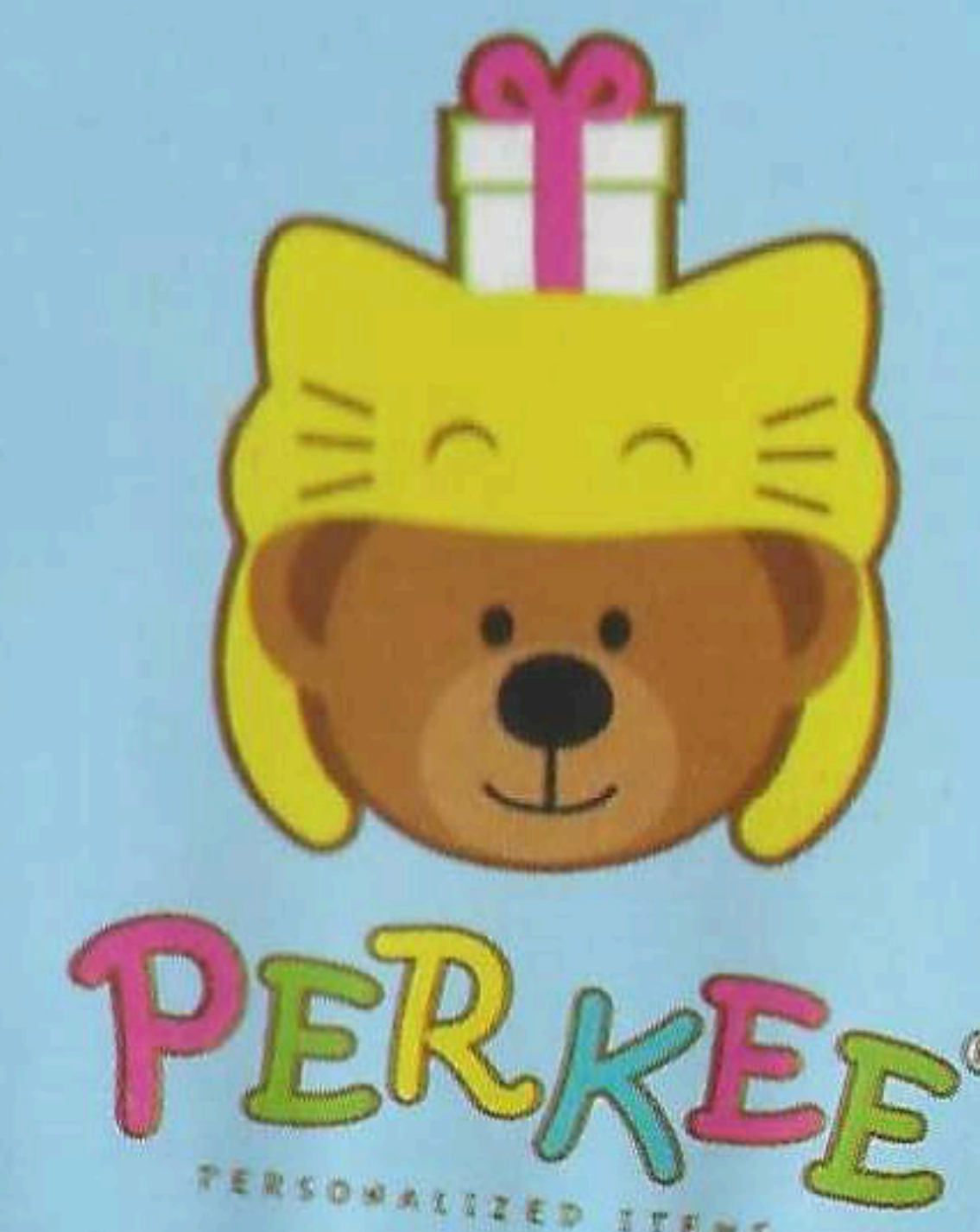
Mascots/Tails/Animal ears/etc.

Felt	100-150/yd	A porous fabric that comes in soft and hard kind. Used for hair clips, hats or small details on a costume.	
Fur	300-800/yd	Design varies from plain colored to printed patterns. Price depends on the length of the fur.	

Photos used courtesy of google images



0935 166 5849
perkee2011@gmail.com





Daydreams 3

FINAL SPECTACLE

This magazine you are holding right now is the COSPLAY ISSUE of 2015. Every year, we have an issue full of tutorials, featurettes and interviews to prepare readers for the biggest cosplay event of the year and our partner, Cosplay Mania. Last year we featured our friend and ambassador, Liui Aquino for his cosplay prowess.

This year, we decided to feature a different side of cosplay. They are seldom under appreciated and taken for granted. However, they are the life and blood of cosplay online, cosplay photographers.

Before, we can only appreciate cosplayer and crafters during events and competitions. Now, in this day and age of online presence and social network, we have the likes of Deviantart, Cure Cosplay, World Cosplay, pixiv and Facebook. We can easily view cosplayers, costumes, armor and such. Little do we remember the people behind the camera who capture such images. They capture a scene or a moment that will identify the cosplay character in your mind. It is not an easy task, there are many things to think of such a location, pose, lighting and more. In the PH, we have our own share of hard working, talented cosplay photographers. Mostly known to lurk around conventions, asking cosplayers to pose.

Model: Miyumi Dilan
Anime: Log Horizon
Character: Lady Lenessia
Photographer: Chops Bardos

We heard from our partner, arkadymac.com about a private event of several cosplay photographers known as Daydreams. They have had their first two events last year and we talked to the organizer, James Paolo Angeles, just in time to be part of their third and final installment, **Daydreams 3: Final Spectacle**. We got to ask him a few questions,

Otaku Asia: Could you please give us a short introduction of Daydreams?

James Paolo Angeles: It was a supposed plain cosplay shoot before only featuring a small band of models and photographers alike. Due to the lack of interesting stories and the abundance of lacklustre projects to inspire the communities, we got the idea of branding it as something big and making it a very organized/systematic project so as to make it stand out. We named it "**Daydreams**" for the fact that it was supposed to conceive positive inspiration amongst many – the word itself connotes positive, wishful thinking that takes away someone to a faraway realm. I aimed this particularly to happen whenever someone joins the project and renders special contributions to the project's

overall welfare – and not only attempting to join for self-glory purposes only.

OA: How long is one event planned?

JPA: Usually, I have each installment/chapter conceptualized over a span of six (6) months or so – this is in order to pave way for enough preparations to take place. Meticulous procedures and such are done so as to ensure the quality and the optimum mitigation of risk and issues for the project to be considered as a success. A successful project always equates to a fun and vibrant environment wherein everyone who was invited to join will feel that their contributions are being shown and appreciated, therefore adding more value and leaving more sweet memories for everyone to leave behind for the cosplay and photography communities to cherish.

OA: How were the cosplayers and photographers chosen?

JPA: They were chosen according to what they can contribute to the project in overall basis – we also see to it to observe several factors including the cosplayer's/photographer's talents,

"We named it **Daydreams** the word itself connotes positive, wishful thinking that takes away someone to a faraway realm"

-James Apolo Angeles

Model: Bianca Romero
Game: Dragon Nest: Warrior's Dawn
Character: Argenta
Photographer: Elijah Alcantara

Cosplayers were invited/chosen according to what they can contribute to the project

Model: Jenny Buaron
Anime: Sword Art Online II
Character: Yuuki Asuna
Photographer: Alphard Penetrante

Snapshot Fantasy 2015
www.facebook.com/snapshotfantasy

attitude, personality, affiliation and his/her uniqueness that he/she can bring in to the table. We usually send special honorary invites to these people and discuss to them what the project is all about and such – though by the advent of the last Daydreams (2 and 3) – we didn't have to do so because the project itself is well known already, thus sparing us from further explanations to do so haha!

OA: What precautions were taken to ensure that everyone will be present and available on the same day?

JPA: The typical way of asking for status within each and every one on a secret group/chatbox created proves to still be an effective way to reach out and ask for red flags. I also see to it to make them responsible/accountable for their own commitments to the project – at the beginning, we also take into account these factors whenever choosing invitees to join us. We aren't keen on people who doesn't honor what they committed.

(e.g. attending the event punctually, following the set protocols and guidelines or even attending the event itself on the aforementioned date)

OA: What has been the common problems and how were they resolved?

JPA: Common issues will include sudden conflict in schedule and/or concerns within their costumes (cosplayers) so to speak. By virtue of their own commitments and with the advance cautions that we are already relaying to them initially which explains how their possible delays/cancellations can cost everyone on the onset makes them realize how valuable key players they were and will thus mitigate potential "unavailability" reasoning(s) from their end.

James worked together with Eric DC of Eyestrain Photoworks and Alphard Penetrante of Snapshot Fantasy from day one to it's end. Whilst organizers, they also were very much part of the event as cosplayers and photographers.

While there have been private shoots, there is nothing quite like this highly anticipated event only accessed by the honorary invitees, bringing together an impressive production team to demonstrate class and prowess in both cosplay and photography.



Model: Elie Ai
Game: Tera Online
Character: Elin Archer
Photographer: Erving Go

When we first asked to cover the event, they asked us what we expect if we were to come to the shoot. I've been to an individual open photoshoot before so generally, I thought of a situation where a pairing is assigned (cosplayer and photographer) to work together for the whole day.

It was not so. In Daydreams, there were eighteen photographers and twenty-one cosplayers. Photographers were given numbers and are paired with a cosplayer at the start and given ample amount of time to shoot. Afterwards, cosplayers are to move to the next photographer in the list. With this, a photographer is given an opportunity with all the cosplayers.

There were a few problems that could not be helped: cosplayers taking more time to change, late participants, the weather, cosplayers changing their costume at the last minute, getting to the venue, but James and his team handled it very professionally. Every one knew their part and what needs to be done.

For the hard work, we congratulate them all.



Model: Lyn Gutierrez
Game: Brave Frontier
Character: Divine Prince Arius
Photographer: Alphard Penetrante

Snapshot Fantasy 2015
www.facebook.com/snapshotfantasy



Model: Kristine Dinglasan
Anime: Sword Art Online II
Character: Konno Yuuki
Photographer: Chops Bardos

We were allowed to join them during the shoot in Fernwood Gardens and had a chance to observe the cosplayers and the photographers in action. Some of them we knew, others only by reputation. We then got to ask some about Daydreams.

OA: How did you choose which character to cosplay?

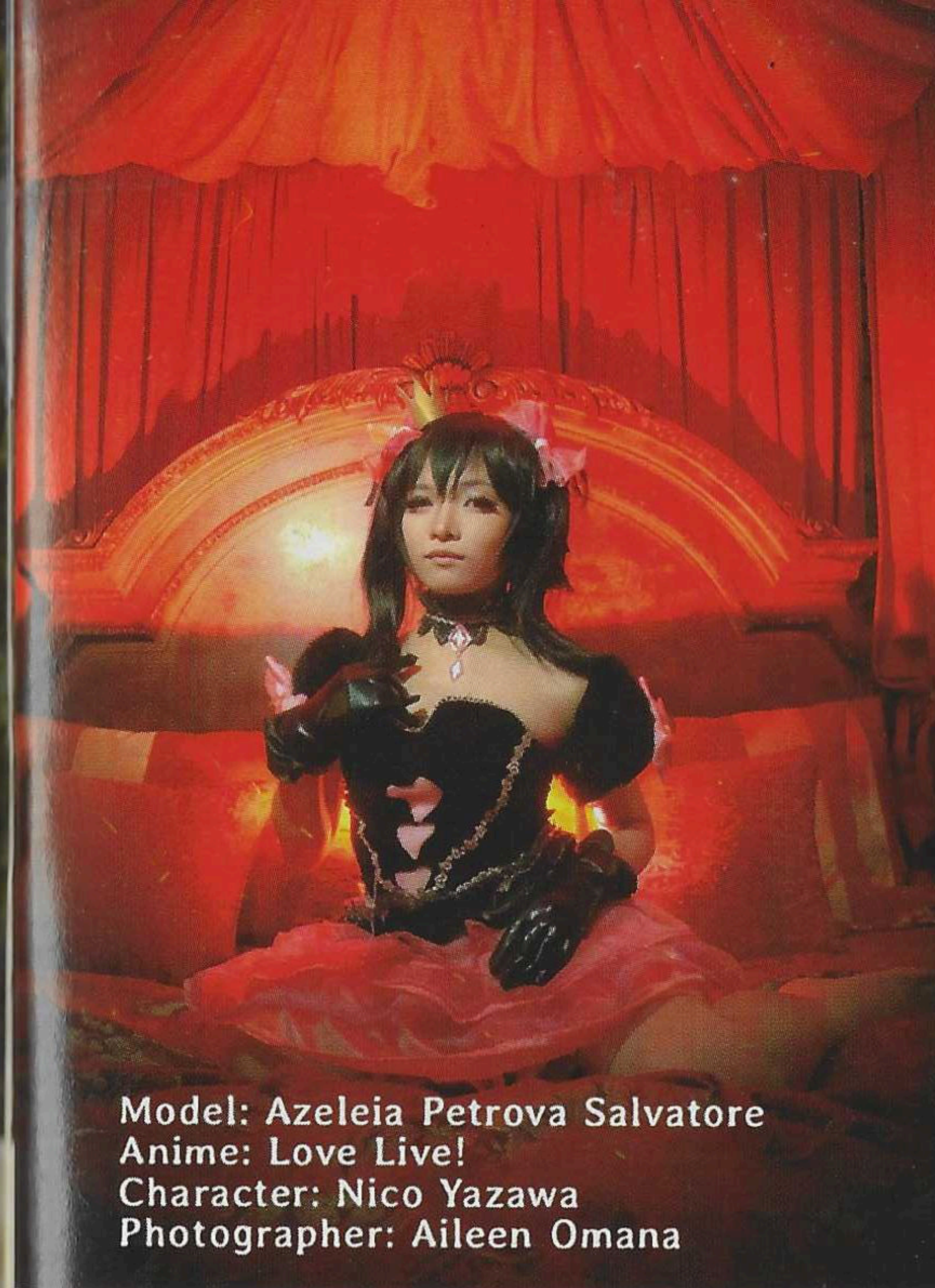
Kristine Dingsalan (cosplayer): We were invited very early on and were informed of the venue. I chose Konno Yuuki from SAO II because I she her cosplay would be perfect for the venue and theme. She was already in my cosplan and this was a great opportunity.

OA: Would you say that a day is enough to capture all these cosplay?

Bernard Garbo (photographer): I'd say there is still much to be done. I believe I could still shoot some more. However, the real enemy is stamina. Human limitations. One photo takes a lot of trial and error to get right. There is also a lot of thinking involved. Like what pose, angle, etc. I'd love to do more but yeah, it's tiring.



Model: Kach Phrase
Game: ArTonelico II
Character: Cloche Leythal Pastalia
Photographer: Erving Go



Model: Azeleia Petrova Salvatore
Anime: Love Live!
Character: Nico Yazawa
Photographer: Aileen Omana

gowns, holding props and reflector disks. Plus the challenge to use the venue and surroundings effectively. We believe that both cosplayers and photographers pushed each other to grow.

Although this is the last leg of the Daydreams series, we cannot ignore how this project has contributed a lot to the Philippine cosplay scene. These individuals will share these images online where the world can see, appreciate and gain inspiration from.

There was a great amount of effort and hard work placed in each shot. It was no joke when Mr. Garbo mentioned about human limitations. There was a lot of trial and error, there was the humidity, discomfort, few wardrobe and equipment malfunction. In the thick of it all was the professionalism that they exhibited on order to get the best shot. There was respect which is what we need the most right now.

James has teased that they are cooking something new. Stay tuned! :D

OA: Are you familiar with the characters the cosplayers have chosen?

Erving Go (photographer): We have a private FB group where cosplayers informed us of their characters and we had time to research.

OA: How about equipment, like which to bring?

EG: I just bring everything. You never know what you'll need.

During the whole shoot we saw friends getting together, making new connections, talking about cosplay, how humid it was, where to shoot next, when would they eat, etc. This shoot brought them all together in a way a convention could not. It was enjoyable and fun for everyone.

For the photographers, nothing beats being able to direct a cosplayer the way you want them to, getting them to try again and again for the perfect shot. Assistants were flipping cloaks and



Model: Abraham Cruz
Tokusatsu Series: Garo
Character: Garo
Photographer: Bernard Garbo

Daydreams 3

FINAL EPISODE

photographers

EYESTRAIN
TRIGGER SHUTTER
JERIC PHOTOGRAPHY
KIRA HOKUTEN PHOTOGRAPHY
STREAM OF IMAGES
JHETOT PHOTOWORKS
BERNARD GARBO
FRANCIS LEGARDA PHOTOGRAPHY
HUZAFAN COSPLAY ARCHIVE
CHIISU STUDIO
TOTODALE PHOTOGRAPHY
JAPSANTIDO PHOTOGRAPHY
ALCAZONE PHOTOGRAPHICS
KEIAVEUNALLIV PHOTOGRAPHY
SNAPSHOT FANTASY
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videographer

AYALDEV CREATIVES

cosplayers

ANGEL AYANAMI
MIMI MON
AYA NINA
LYN GUTIEREZ
SHIN MEGUMMI
AZELEIA
ANN SALAS
JENNY BUARON
KRISTINE DINGLASAN
JAMES PAOLO ANGELES
ANGELICA NECHI
MIYUMI DILAN
LIZ EIRI
LENY MING
KEN LIM
BIANCA ROMERO
ABRAHAM ROMERO
ABRAHAM ENRIQUEZ
KACH PHRASE
LILY TIU
ELIE AI

production assistance

KRISHA.JHOGS.RYUKETSU.KALOY.BIIN.ALDREI

Model: Mimi Mon
Game: Rage of Bahamut
Character: Tearful Fairy
Photographer: Japs Antido



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+639475261157
+639334417065
(02)6226391

Photo by: Fritz Tentavita



OTAKU LIFE HACKS

FACE and BODY PAINT TUTORIAL

by d.Rain

Materials needed:

Body paint (brand of your choice)
Sponges (lots of sponges!)
Loose powder
Old powder brush
Primer and Concealer (Optional)
Hair spray (any brand)
Eyeshadow (lighter and darker shade of your body paint *for contouring)



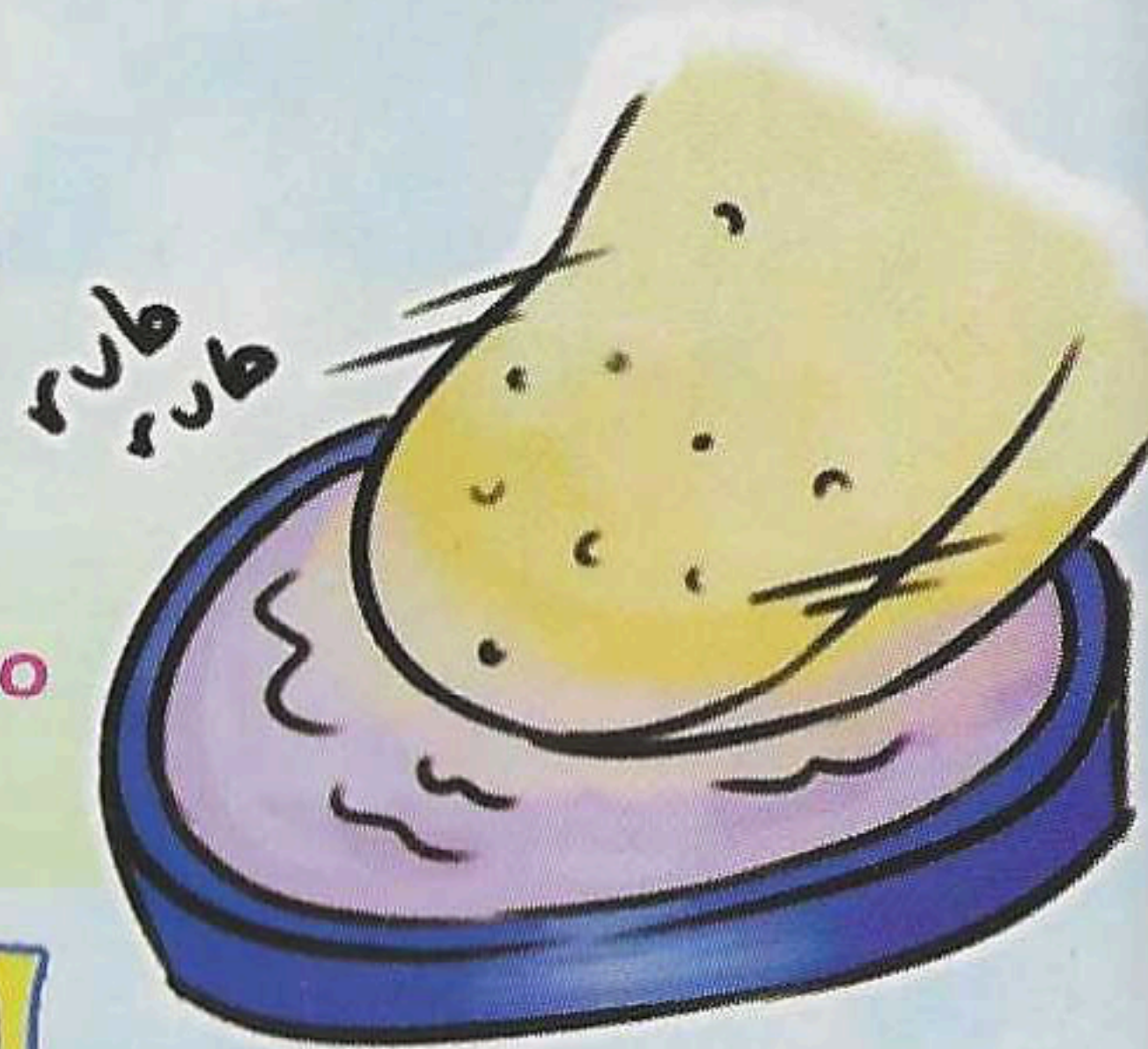
Step 1: Clean your Face

Start with washing your face to get rid of the oils. Make sure that your hair is all tied up. Wear a wig net to keep your face free from your hair. If you need to put on contact lenses for your character, better put it now while you still have clean, paint-less hands.

***Optional step:** Prime your face first like what you do on your usual makeup routine. Also, primer helps the paint to stay longer and makes cleaning up easier. Conceal those dark spots and blemishes before you paint your face.

Step 2: 'Warm up' the paint

Dip your sponge in the water then squeeze out as much as you can. Make sure the sponge is DAMP, not soaking wet. Rub it in the paint to slowly 'warm' it up, until it gets to its muddy state.

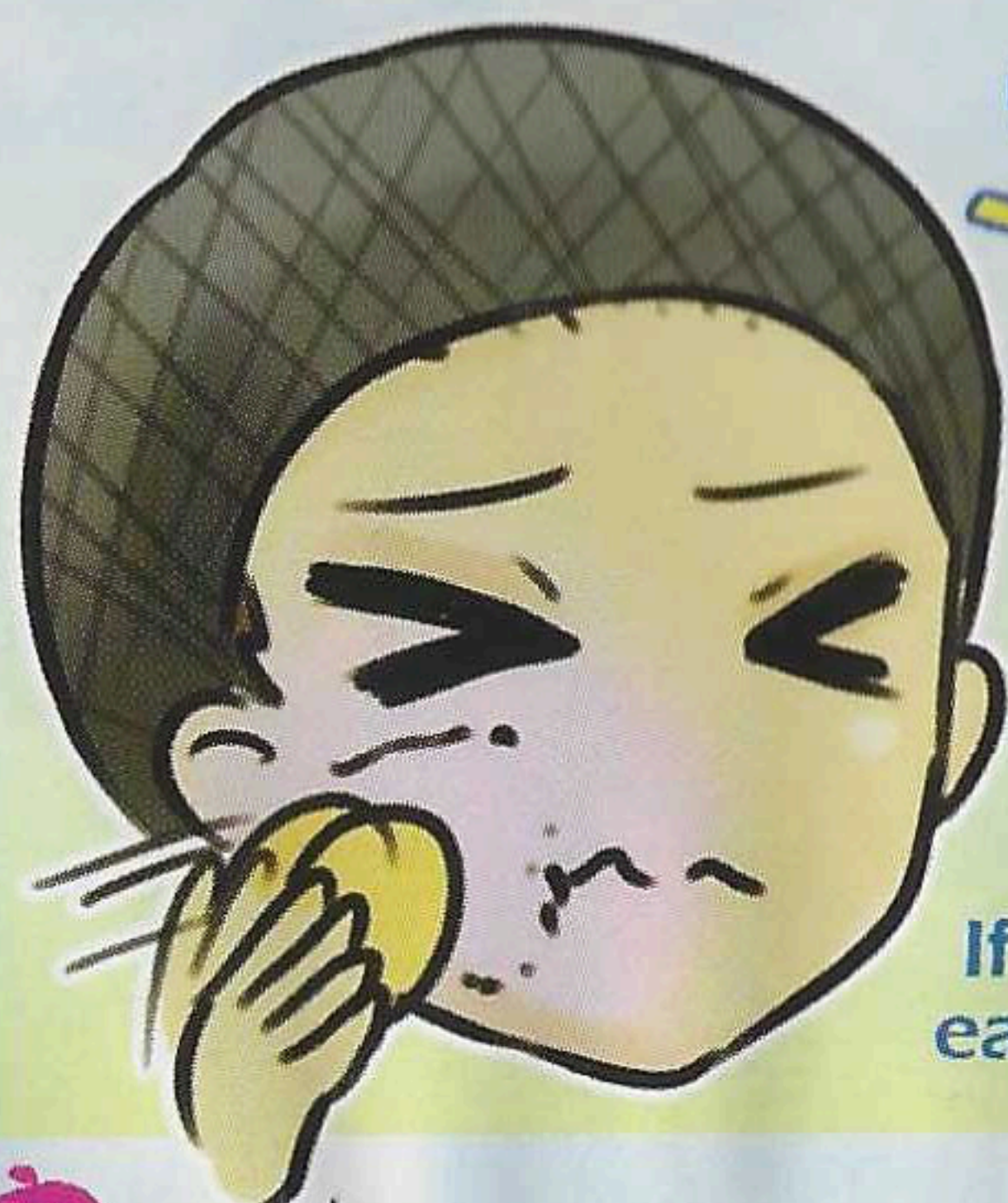


Step 3: Paint time!

Start painting your face by dabbing the sponge as many layers as you want, until you achieve your preferred color intensity. Use as many sponges you need, depending on how much skin you are going to paint.

***DAB, don't streak!** Dabbing helps get a stronger color, and it looks more even*

If you are just doing a face paint, don't forget to paint your ears and neck as well.

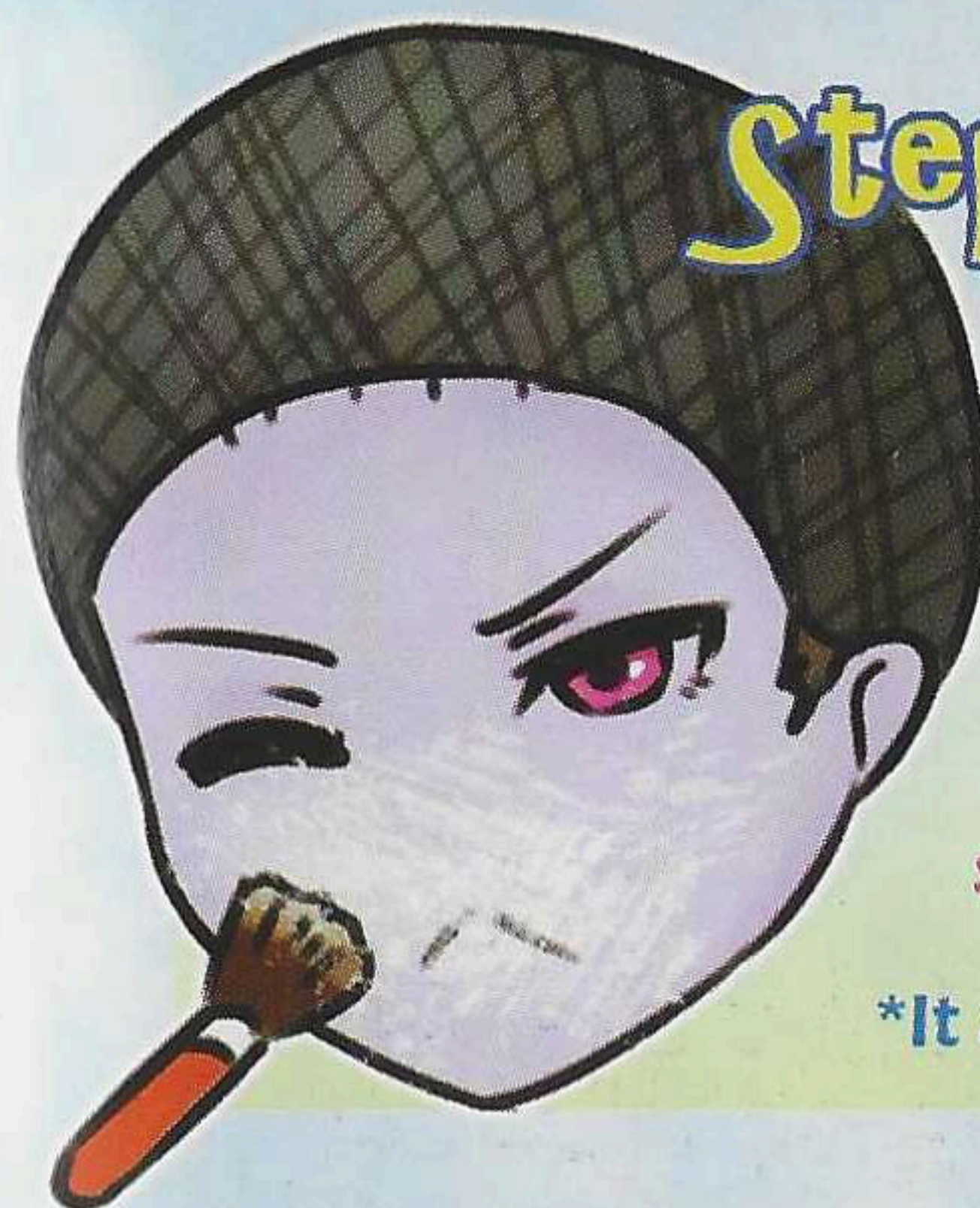


Step 4: POWder, POWder, POWder!

Use the old powder brush to apply the powder. (Since the paint is still wet by this time, it is most likely some of the paint will stick to the brush, this is why it is advisable to use an old one)

Set the paint by powdering your face until it feels dry enough to touch. The powder will prevent the paint from smudging and will help to get a more even look.

*It also helps you feel less gross.



Step 5: Seal it

Get your hairspray and mist it all over where you have paint on. Don't use too much since it tends to wash off your paint, or it might form into droplets. Make sure to close your eyes and mouth because it stings and could be toxic. Wait for it to dry then repeat as much as you want. Puff some powder on again before doing the final sealant.



Step 6: Add some contour

Do you think you're already good to go? Wrong! With all the paint and powder on your face, it makes you look flat and creepy. This is where the eyeshadow comes in. Use a lighter shade to highlight the areas like the bridge of the nose, forehead and cheeks, and then use a darker shade to shape the jawline, hollows of your cheek and sides of the nose.

You may apply your usual eye makeup and put on some lip tint. Now all there's left is wear your costume and enjoy the event!



+ wig
+ makeup





COSPLAY

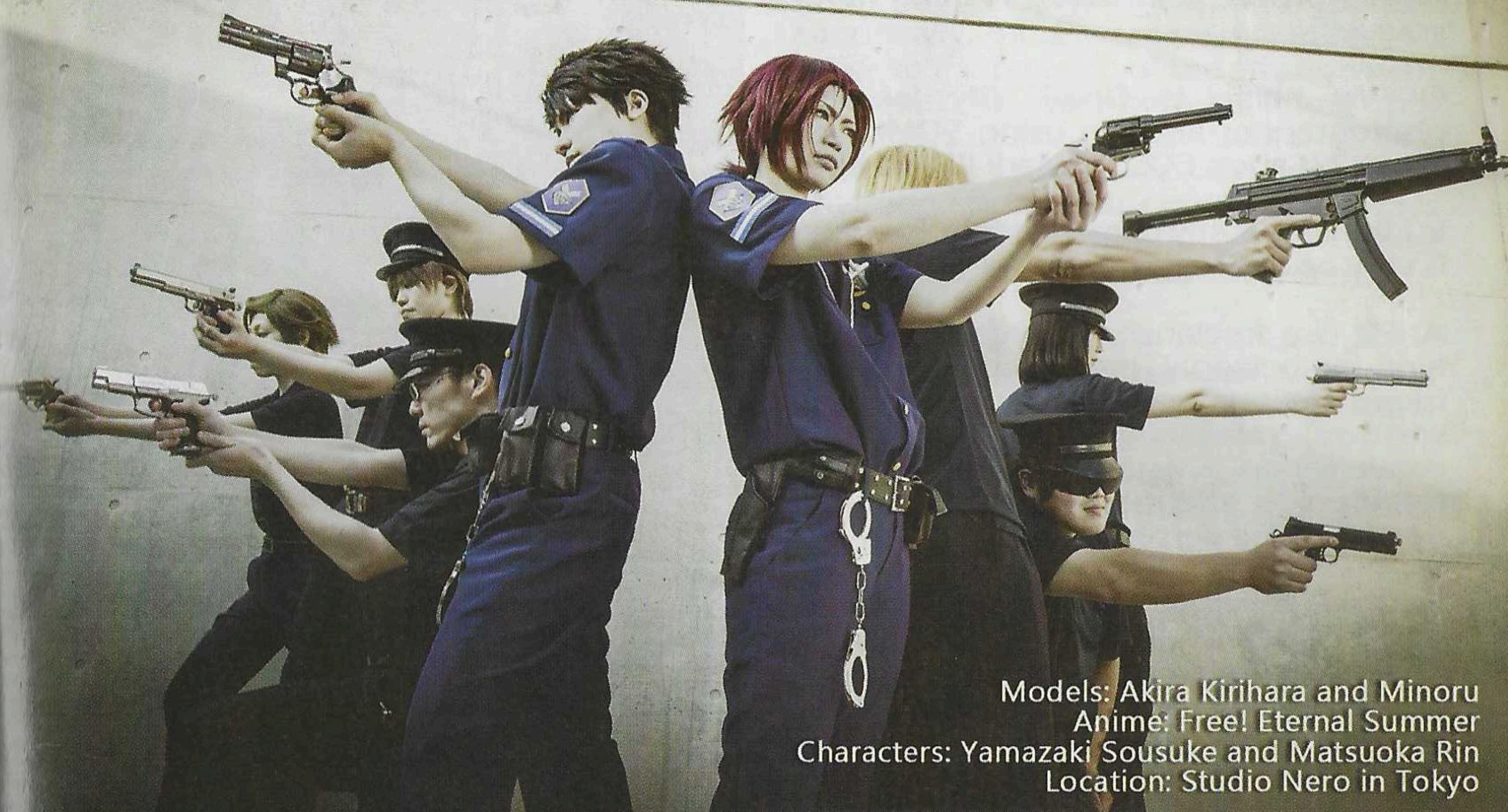
It's more fun with friends~ (A glimpse at Japan's cosplay photography scene)

Interview by Lizac 3.0



Model: Akira Kiriara
Game: Touken Ranbu
Character: Izuminokami Kanesada
Location: A Cosplay picture studio in Tokyo

Model: Akira Kiriara | Game: Touken Ranbu | Character: Izuminokami Kanesada | Location: A Cosplay picture studio in Tokyo



Models: Akira Kiriara and Minoru
Anime: Free! Eternal Summer
Characters: Yamazaki Sousuke and Matsuoka Rin
Location: Studio Nero in Tokyo



Cosplaying is best shared with the people you are comfortable with. Some groups of friends prefer to cosplay together at conventions, while some want to capture the moments at a different place. Nonetheless, the proof of all the hard work whenever everything is done, the costumes are hung, and props are resting against the wall can be seen through only one means: of course, the pictures! People have always admired the cosplayers in the photos, but the limelight is frequently not given to the person who shot the pictures in a glamorous (sometimes not!) fashion. It was only recently when cosplay award giving bodies started to give as equal recognition to photographers as the cosplayers in the pictures.

Cosplay photography is not easy, but just like cosplaying, being with friends makes it all easier. Here is one photographer from Japan who wanted to share some of his involvement in cosplay photography. He is a new cosplay photographer himself, and his experiences and techniques as seen in the pictures he took might be helpful especially to those who are planning to do photo shoots with their friends. The pictures he took are divided into two: the modern cosplay photography and ancient cosplay photography.

L: Lizac 3.0 | **O:** One-T
A: Akira Kirihiro (model cosplayer)

L: Hi, please tell us something about yourself!

O: My name is One-T. My job is a photographer and I'm using 5DMk3 and 5Dmk2 (Canon EOS 5D Mark III and II).

L: I think he is shy because his introduction is very brief!

A: He is a freelance photographer. I met him by personal introduction from my friend. He is upbeat and full of enthusiasm, so we always have a sprightly conversation when taking photos. Needless to add, he is not shy! He is an open-minded person.

L: One-T-san, please introduce the friends you are usually with during photo shoots and tell something about them.

O: The person you see in the ancient cosplay photo is Akira. She is my friend. Akira is a nice lady. She is very attractive when dressed as a man, and she has many female fans. On the other hand, she has one feminine side. I was able to shoot nice photos, thanks to the costumes she has created and also her make-up. Akira is the person who taught me the world of cosplay photography.

One of my friends is Misao who published a photo book. Many of her friends cooperated with her. She is a very funny and cute person and is loved by many friends. I made a lot of friends through this shoot and it was very fun. Misao is also one of those who encouraged me to do cosplay photos. I am grateful to these two friends.

L: I've seen their cosplay photos as well and they are amazing. What is the process you follow when you take pictures? What are your other roles aside from being a photographer during these shoots.

O: I have also seen many of their cosplay photos from other photographers (from RikiTaniyama) and loved them. I really wish to shoot such amazing cosplay photos. I can't explain well what my process and strategies are on how to take them. But in my case, before the shoot, we will meet and talk about the image cut.



Model: Akira Kirihiro | Anime: Hakuuni
Character: Sawamura Daichi | Location: An abolished school in Saitama



Model: Akira Kirihiro | Game: Touken Ranbu
Character: Juro-tachi | Location: A cosplay picture studio in Tokyo



Models: Akira Kirihiro, Misao, Minoru, Rin-ne | Anime: Free! Eternal Summer
Characters: Yamazaki Sousuke, Mikoshiba Monotarou, Matsuoka Rin, Nitori Aichirou | Location: Hacostadium Tokyo in Chiba



I shoot a scene which I think is good and develop my favorite color in that picture, whichever turns out to be.

In the modern cosplay photos specifically, there were many models, so I stick to the balance of the arrangement of models in the photo. I know that cosplayers make costumes and decide their cosplay characters, so I don't say anything about their costumes. I always join them just as a photographer and have never touched their costumes.

L: The location of the photoshoot for the ancient cosplay pictures look wonderful and the cosplayers' creativity shine through. Did you have any say in the locations? How much time did you spend in accomplishing the photo shoots for this?

O: It was only recently when I began to take pictures of cosplay, so I am not so knowledgeable about the best locations where cosplay photos should be taken. But the cosplayers I shoot with always decide on the nice location, and thankfully, they know many good locations. I don't really remember how long it takes to shoot photos because time goes fast when I take pictures.

L: What are the difficulties you encountered while taking cosplay pictures? And what are the fun moments?

O: I love taking photos so I'm always having fun whenever I do this. I am always glad when I clear difficulties, so I think it is not troublesome. The only thing I can consider a difficulty is when there are differences when it comes to my favorite photos and the cosplayers' favorite photos. The solution to this is if I get the next chance, I shoot the photo everyone loves. I like both modern cosplay pictures and ancient cosplay pictures.

L: What tips can you give to cosplay photographers?

O: Do not limit yourselves to cosplay photography because photo shoots in general are fun to do. There is no correct procedure when it comes to photo shoots. The important thing is, I think you should shoot pictures as you like them and enjoy the activity.



Model: Akira Kirihara | Game: DRAMAtical Murder
Character: Koujaku | Location: The field of spider lily in Saitama

Model: Misao | Game: Touken Ranbu
Character: Tsurumaru Kuninaga
Location: A Cosplay picture studio in Tokyo

Bringing favorite characters to life is an achievement in itself that cosplayers aim for. Cosplaying has become a hobby for anime, manga, and game enthusiasts who love to portray their favorite characters and live as them even just for a day. The effort they put in making their costumes is irreplaceable: hungry days, sleepless nights, tight budget, juggling in between work or studies and cosplaying. It requires dedication, diligence, and money! However, if it's done with friends, the task seems a bit easier and more fun.



Models: Akira Kirihara and Minoru | Anime: Free! Eternal Summer
Characters: Yamazaki Sousuke and Matsuoka Rin | Location: Studio Nero in Tokyo

The main keyword is fun, and if you just enjoy the photo shoots yourselves, everything will go smoothly according to plan. In fact, some of the best photo shoots are spontaneously done; it's just usually the day of the photo shoot that needs a schedule. So, with a good photographer and good-natured friends, let the pictures show your effort and passion for your craft while enjoying it.





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STAGE PLAY

舞台
東京喰種

Ghouls on Stage

Tokyo Ghoul Stage Play

article by Ren

Theater stage play adaptations of anime, manga or games are getting popular in Japan. Some of which that had their adaptation are Naruto, Gurren Lagann, Sailor Moon and Prince of Tennis and joining in the ranks is the stage play adaptation of Sui Ishida's popular series, Tokyo Ghoul.

Tokyo Ghoul revolves around the world wherein creatures that devour humans that are called "ghouls" roam the streets of Tokyo. An ordinary student named **Kaneki Ken** encounters a woman named **Rize**, an avid reader like him in a familiar café and he has yet to experience a big change that will happen to him due to this encounter.

The stage play adaptation will be produced by **Marvelous Entertainment** and **Studio Pierrot** with **Isamu Kayano** directing the play. The performances are scheduled to show on July 2015 in Tokyo (**AiiA Theater Tokyo**) and Kyoto (**Kyoto Gekijo**). The script will be provided by **Chuji Mikasano** who also provided the the script for the anime series of Tokyo Ghoul. **Go Sakabe** will be composing the music while **Daisuke Shimizu** will choreograph the combat scenes.

The cast of the stage play are as follows:



Yuki Ogoe
as Ken



Aya Tabata
as Touka Kirishima



Shogo Suzuki as
Nishiki Nishio



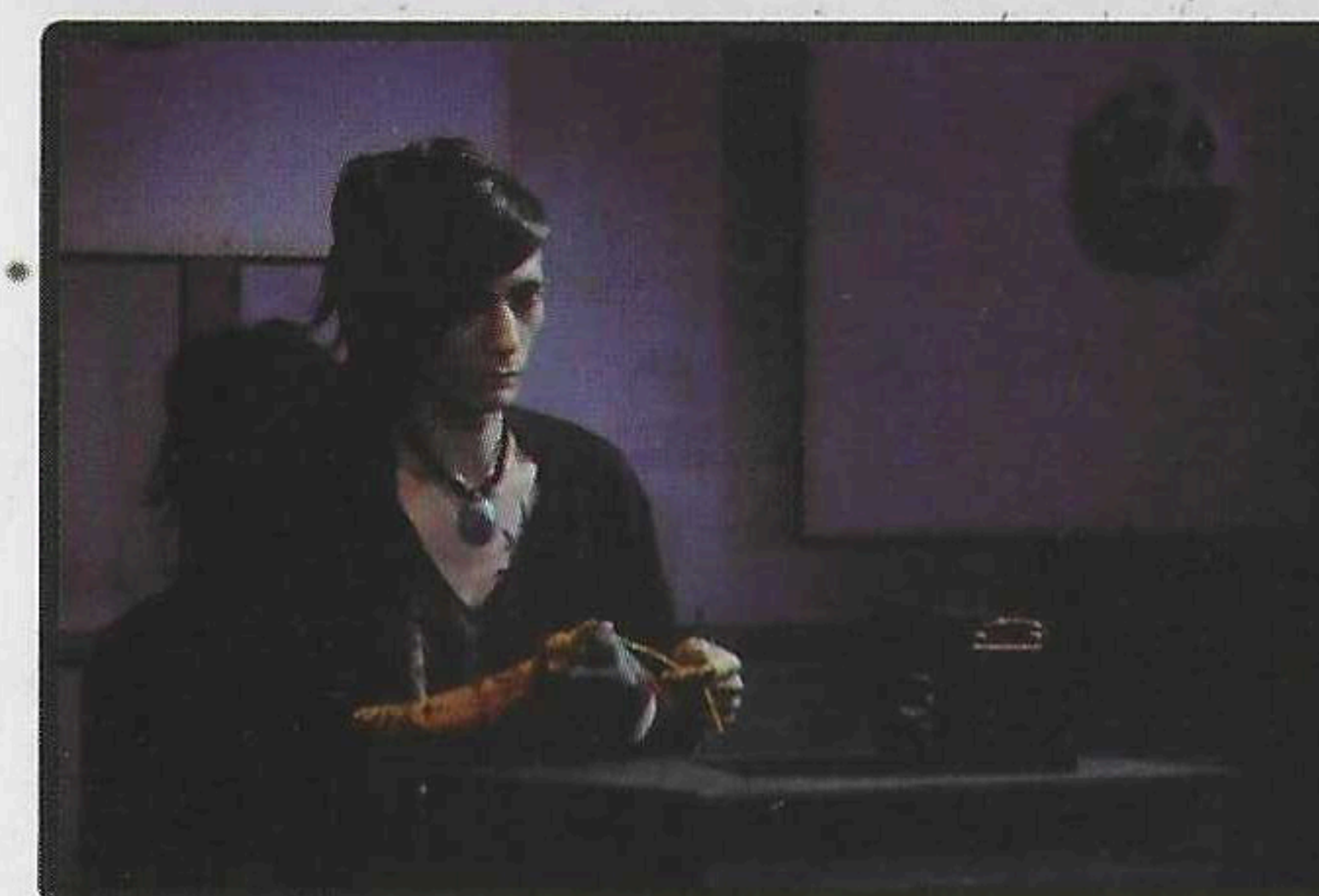
Shuto Miyazaki as
Hideyoshi Nagachika



Yuri Hamada
as Rize Kamishiro



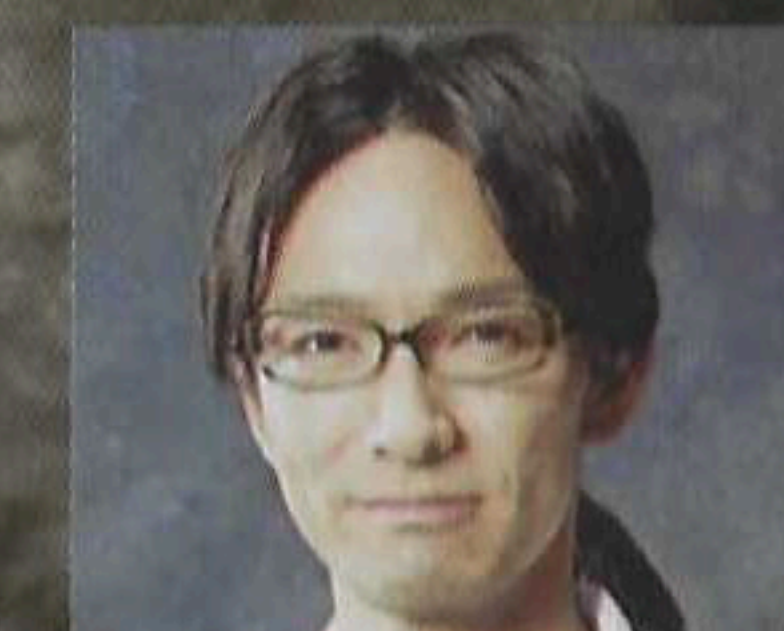
Mitsu Murata
as Uta



Yoshida Tomokazu
as Yomo



Yoshitaka Yamagami
as Yamori



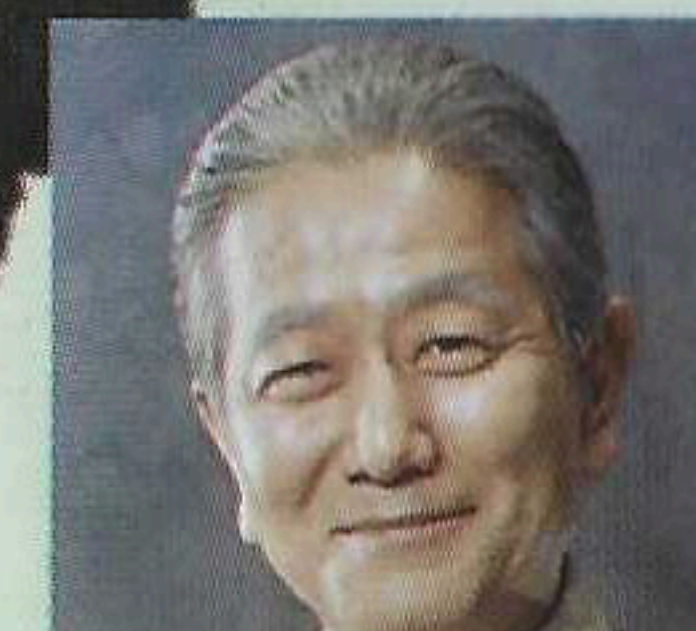
Masaaki Okuno
as Asaki Fueguchi



Yuki Kimisawa as
Koutarou Amon



Jiyu Arima
as Kureo Mado



Tadayoshi Kato
as Yoshimura

If you are a fan of Tokyo Ghoul or maybe a fan of stage plays, this adaptation is something worthwhile to check out!



A GREAT DAY INDEED

LISA'S ANOTHER GREAT DAY IN MANILA CONCERT

Considering the fact that both anime and J-music, despite having a solid following, do not appeal to most of the populace, it's understandable why J-music artists have been reluctant in performing here in the country. Thanks to insistent fanbase demand, the efforts of Cosplay.ph, and their coordination with Japan Music Festival, what was once just a dream of many became a reality. So for the first-ever J-music stand-alone concert ever in the country, fans can't help but feel more than lucky and glad to have this cute, energetic, and highly talented girl perform for them.

It's no other than LiSA.

Legally named as Elizabeth Sakura Narita, LiSA, which stands for Love is Same All, has indeed come quite far on her and her band's music career. From practicing in garages to singing famous anime soundtracks – *Sword Art Online*, *Fate/Zero*, and *Nisekoi*, just to name a few – until taking centerstage both in their home or anywhere else in the globe, LiSA has truly indeed come a long way, so much so that she just had her concert entitled *Another Great Day In Manila* here in the country, held last June 27, 2015 at the Samsung Hall in SM Aura, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.

article by James
layout by kanddy
images by event organizers
special thanks to Cosplay.ph



SOZO Presents Japan Music Festival 2015
LiSA ~ANOTHER GREAT DAY in Manila~ - 27/06/2015
Samsung Hall, SM Aura



SOZO Presents Japan Music Festival 2015
LiSA ~ANOTHER GREAT DAY in Manila~ - 27/06/2015
Samsung Hall, SM Aura

Considering that it was the first time a Japanese solo artist had a major concert in the country, people were cautiously optimistic about the attendance. Thankfully, these fears, didn't materialize, as there were a lot of fans who flocked to see LiSA. With their support, they were able to fill most of the regular seats, which cost around Php 3000 per ticket – a much cheaper price as compared to her previous concerts. Additionally, because of the unexpectedly great number of attendees, the organizers offered another ticket deal costing only Php999 for balcony.

WHAT WAS JUST A DREAM OF MANY BECAME A REALITY

The most supportive of fans queued as early 7AM just to make sure that they get to see their – and every attendee's – idol up close and personal. This may also because the seating is on a first-come-first-served basis. It was around 5PM when everyone was let into the auditorium. Right on time, 6PM, the event started. Everyone's idol and favorite cute girl with a high-pitched, treble and energetic singing voice came out on stage; her actions as lively as her song.

As her first song, she chose *Crossing Field* – *Sword Art Online*'s first opening theme, which sounded just like the record.

Everybody's much-awaited songstress – LiSA – has finally taken the Philippine stage for the first time in history.

Right after a few words and gestures to her beloved fans, LiSA quickly burned through her repertoire and sang *Oath Sign*, *Fate/Zero*'s OP. Afterwards, she introduced Koukei, one of her bands members who played the acoustic guitars for the next two of her songs: *Ichiban no Takaramono*, *No More Time Machine*, *Shirushi*. Whether it's behind a pre-recorded instrumental or an acoustic guitar, LiSA's live singing voice, shines.

There was an intermission: a question-and-answer portion. Audience were asked to write questions on a piece of paper, and LiSA received and answered the following questions (not the exact words):

Why did she cry during the Final Operation! Concert that she did for Angel Beats! before your surgery?

It occurred to her that she will be singing the last song for the concert, as she was the singing voice for *Girls Dead Monster Yui*.

When she found out that she will be going to the Philippines, what did she think of the country?

She thought that she'll finally have a chance to eat a lot of bananas.

Among the anime series that you sang an OST for, which one is your favorite?

Character-wise, it's Nisekoi. But when it comes to storyline, it's Fate/Zero.

What are you looking for in a guy that you want to date?

She likes guys who are tall, just like Woody. She also likes guys who are kindhearted. She also added that there are so many wonderful guys during the concert.

Who does she consider as the artist that has influenced her the most?

She was inspired and wants to be like Avril Lavigne, because she thinks she's so cool, as she's able to be cute and sing punk-rock songs at the same time.

After the intermission, the show went on, with LiSA singing Electro Lyrical, and instructing the audience to dance along; BRiGHTFLiGHT; Rally Go Round, the opening theme for Nisekoi; and last but not least, Rising Hope, the opening theme for Irregular at Magic High School was sung.

LISA QUICKLY BURNED THROUGH HER REPERTOIRE

After the "last" song, LiSA went backstage, as the show is "over". But of course, it's just part of the show; so when people began chanting "en-co-re!", on and on and louder and louder, LiSA returned and sang an acoustic rendering of Crow Song, a song of the all-girl band Girls Dead Monster in Angel Beats – a fitting end for a wonderful concert.



SOZO Presents Japan Music Festival
LiSA - ANOTHER GREAT DAY in Manila - 27/06/
Samsung Hall, SM

There are many amazing things about LiSA. She has the talent, the energy, and the moves, making her performances lively, heartfelt, or both. Her energy is so contagious that the crowd can't help but chant "Hey! Hey! Hey!", move their glowsticks according to the beat of her songs, and even make them to boot as well!

SHE'LL FINALLY HAVE A CHANCE TO EAT A LOT OF BANANAS

LiSA's Another Great Day in Manila really lived up to its name, as the concert was a both a monumental success and a milestone for fans here in the country and the J-music industry. But question is, are we going to LiSA on our shores again? Very much likely! After all, she was warmly welcomed by a huge crowd, and she did say that she'll be bringing her band when she comes back.

So with rising hope, we're chanting "en-co-re!" as early as now.



THE SWORD MASTER

WHERE PROPS LOOK LIKE
REAL WEAPONS

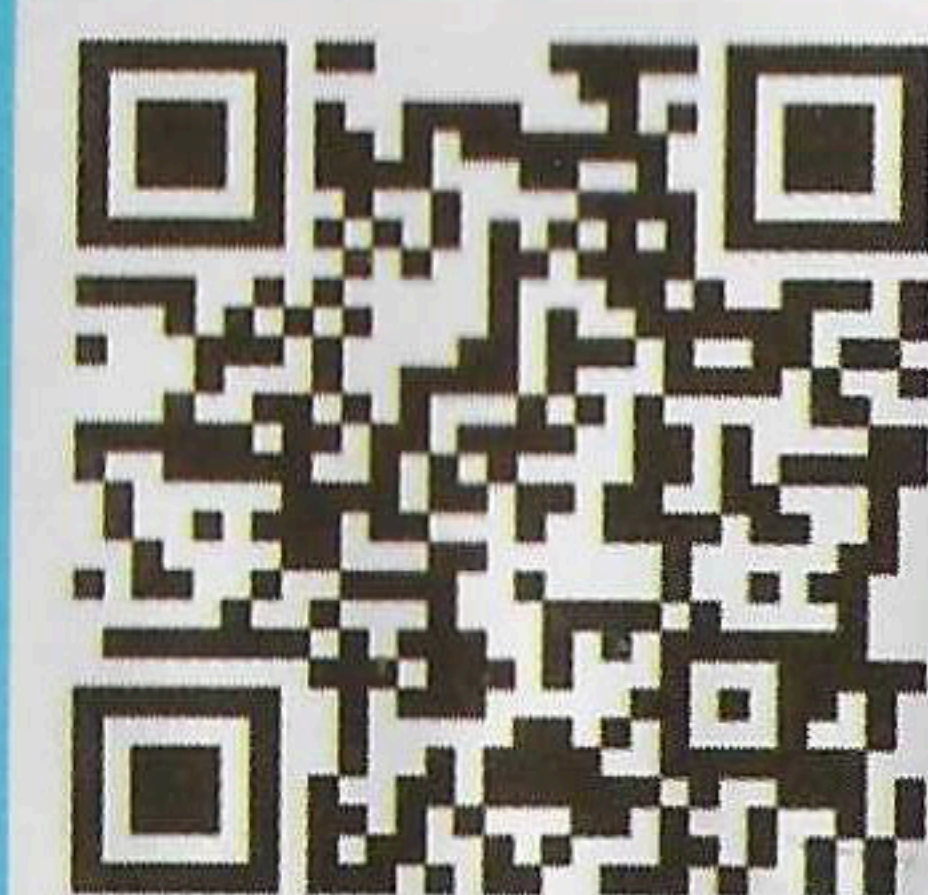


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art by: Alodia Gosiengfiao

One of the best things about being an otaku is bringing your favorite characters into real life through cosplay. Not only has it showed the art and creativity of anime lovers, but has also made the anime culture richer.

In time, cosplay has become more and more wide-known than before. Here in the Philippines, the increasing number of anime conventions and cosplay competitions is its proof. Indeed the cosplay community world-wide is now larger than ever, and different social networking sites certainly made it easier to see this. Among the many groups in Facebook solely for cosplay enthusiasts is **Cosplay Circle**.

With currently more than 25 000 members from all over the world, Cosplay Circle is one of the largest group for cosplayers, photographers, otaku, geeks and enthusiasts. It was originally an old Devian Art group that is revived in FB as interaction with members in the site is more possible and will make the group more enjoyable for the members.

VISION

Setting differences aside for the love of cosplay.

According to CC's Vision-Mission, their goal is to unite people of the same passion from different parts of the world and to share a good connection and relationship with fellow artists and cosplayers. The group also aims to have regular on-ground gatherings (e.g. conventions, meet-ups, workshops) in respective countries of the members. Certainly, doing cosplay is more fun when you share it to other people especially with those of the same interest.

MISSION

To create a group that promotes positivity and inspires people to improve on their crafts - cosplay, crafting, cosplay photography & videography, makeup, costume/character designing. To bring together artists from all over the world and share their works with each other.

In the group, any member is allowed to post their own cosplay photos and videos whether as a model, photographer or designer. Threads are always open for any discussion about their cosplay: how a costume was created, make up was done, or editing was furnished. This is very helpful for all members as they are able to learn things from their fellow cosplayers which are essential for improvement.

The special thing about CC is their strong implementation of good conduct among the members.

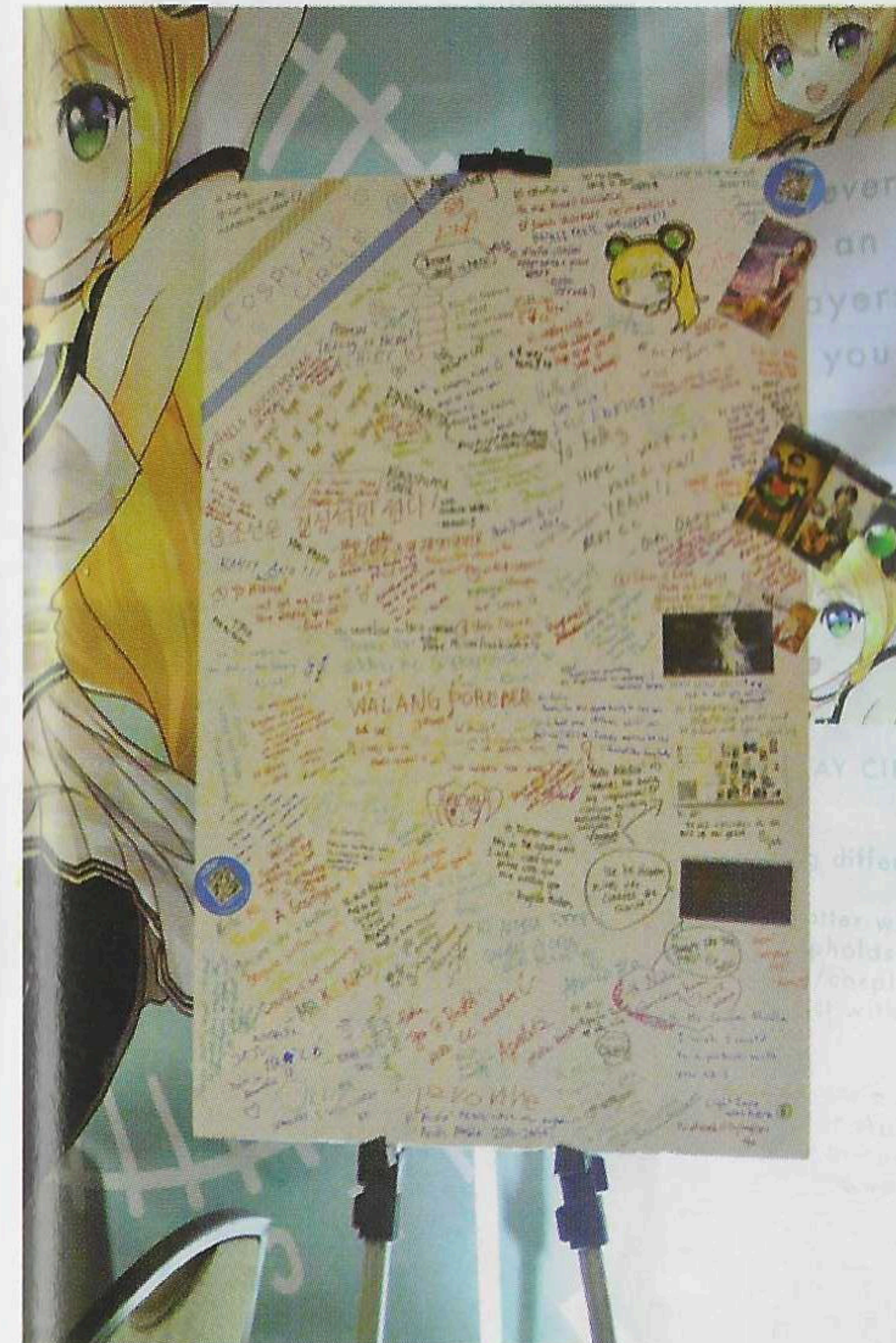
Amateur cosplayers' biggest concern is the possible criticisms that they may receive after they showcase their cosplay that they prepared for months and weeks. They have to accept criticisms in order to improve, but what if those come from inconsiderate people who are quick to give harsh comments? Big chance is that their confidence will be corrupted and their potentials will become restrained. Not all people have strong minds at all times. Positive reinforcements are always more effective than negative ones; thus, CC makes it a point that the members will be always be kind and mindful to others.



If ever you are worried for spams and other unrelated topics that may be posted, don't worry since

The group is well-maintained and moderated by the admins.

They always check the posts first before they are shown in the page. Any sign of violence, porn and gross stuff, even unnecessary surveys and advertisements are prohibited and violators will be kicked out of the group at their second offense. Too strict? Just fine for a proper and sound cosplay group for members of different races and generation.



Founded by **Rodman M. Papros**, Cosplay Circle is a public group with members ranging from novices to experts when it comes to cosplay. The administrators include Alex Sia Co Velasco, Alodia Gosiengfiao, Andrea Bridger, Anna Rédei, D-Piddy Wins, Dhee Chan, Eric, Ejercito IV, Ezekiel Sese, Fernando Brischetto, Gladzy Kei, Jay Tablante, Kim Nguyen, Leny Ming, Liui Aquino, Lyrion Aquino, Richfield Edbert, and Xtian Mack.

As pointed out in their announcement, you might also help out as one of the moderators if you are interested.

The group has grown exponentially that members in the Philippines were able to meet up in the group's first grand gathering in the recent ToyCon PH last June 2015.

Generally, Cosplay Circle is a nice web environment for cosplay enthusiasts. It is where you can share your cosplay photos to inspire others, and likewise be inspired by the work of others. It is also very refreshing to know that there are a lot of people who have the same hobby as you and whom you can talk freely about

WANT TO JOIN THE GROUP?

Just search Cosplay Circle in Facebook to see the group and hit the Join button!



MOVIE REEL

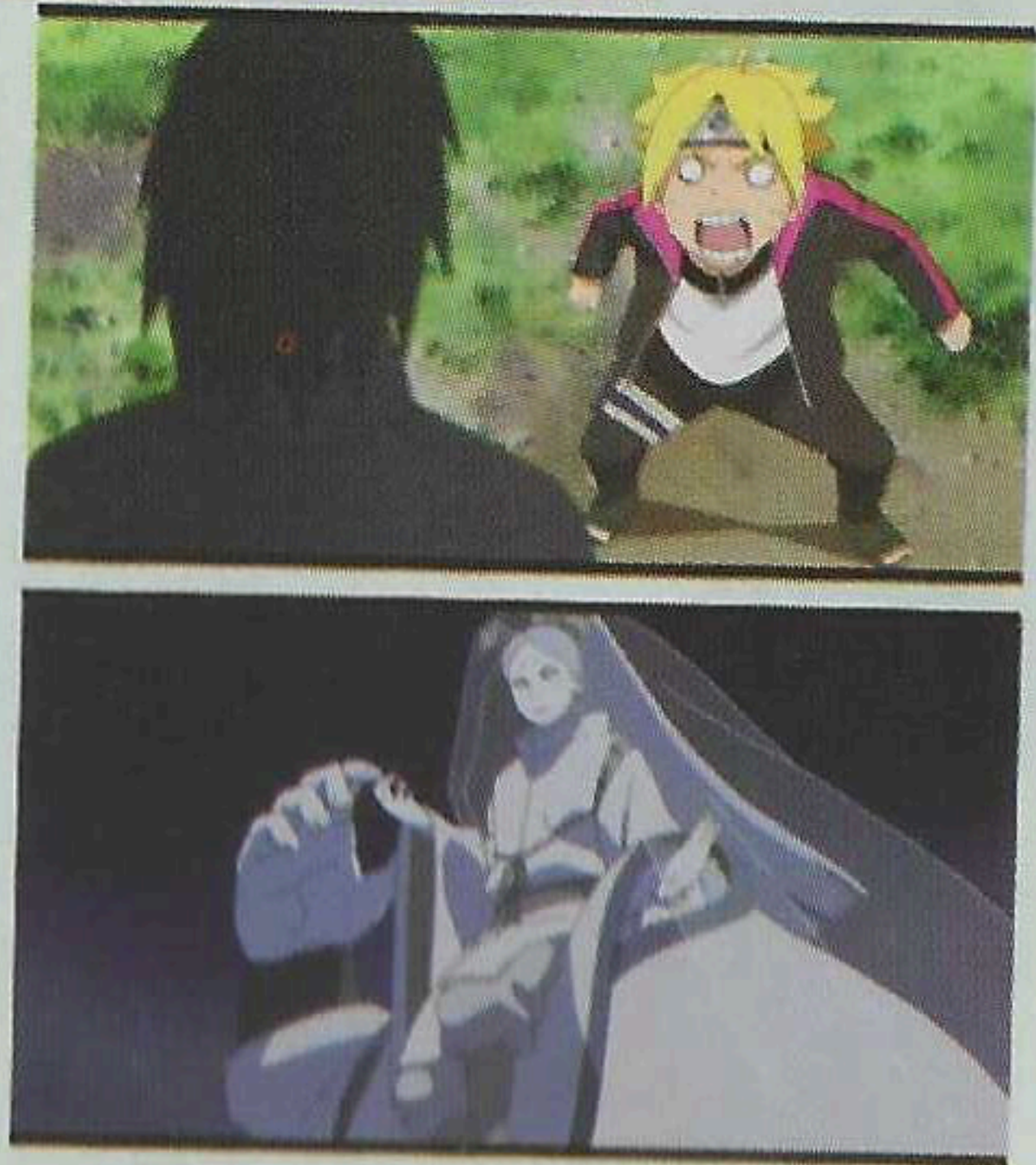
BORUTO -ボルト- NARUTO THE MOVIE



It's the time of the year again... The Chuunin exams and this time it will be the next generations time to show off their skills and that they can even surpass their parents generation... Could they?

I HATE THE HOKAGE!!! I'LL SURPASS HIM. by Yani

Boruto Uzumaki hates the hokage. Why? because for him, the position of the hokage stole his father from his family. He did even pranks by painting the Hokage mountain during the 5 Kage summit when he was still an academy student just to be noticed by his father. For Naruto, everyone is family in the Konoha village which Boruto doesn't like. He heard from his fellow classmate, Sarada Uchiha that her father Sasuke Uchiha is Naruto's number one rival so he asked Sasuke to become his apprentice. Sasuke agrees to it under "one condition". In the middle of Chuunin exams, a new villain arrives and their target is Naruto. He suddenly vanished when he was being hit by the villains while protecting Boruto and Sasuke.



Boruto: Naruto the Movie is the eleventh Naruto film to be released on japan theaters on August 7, 2015 and on a later date in other countries. USA will be releasing it on October 10, which is also the birthdate of Naruto. This movie was written by Masashi Kishimoto and directed by Hiroyuki Yamashita.

We will get to see the new generation in action! Are they better than their parents? One more thing that's exciting in this movie is that which skill/s did their children inherited; is it their mothers or fathers. We will also get to see our beloved characters as a parent.

Will Boruto and the rest of Konoha be able to save Naruto from the clutches of the villains and prevent them of getting Kurama from him? Will Boruto find his resolve with his problem with Naruto as a father? Let's find out Boruto: Naruto the Movie as it will showing in cinemas here in the Philippines this 2015!

CHARACTERS:

THE NEW TEAM 7
HAS ARRIVED!!

JOUNIN LEADER:
KONOHAMARU
SARUTOBI

MITSUKI

He came from a different village but he graduated as a ninja from Konoha. He highly respects his parents.

BORUTO UZUMAKI

He is the son of Naruto Uzumaki and Hinata Uzumaki. He has a sibling named Himawari Uzumaki whom loves him very much. Sasuke will be also his teacher aside from Konohamaru. He hates the fact that Naruto is a Hokage; he barely spends time with his family due to his work.

SARADA UCHIHA

The daughter of Sasuke Uchiha and Sakura Uchiha. Like her mother, her ability is also super strength combined with her eye technique: the sharingan. Looks up to Naruto and wants to become a hokage in the future



CON-IN-FOCUS



STARMARIE makes a comeback here in the Philippines here for the fourth time! It was held last June 7, 2015 at Movie Stars Cafe, SM Mall of Asia Pasay City. STARMARIE's first appearance here in the Philippines was at the Best of Anime 2013 as guests but now, they will be having their own event as part of their STARMARIE Asia Tour 2015 ~Fantastic~. Their event was unique this time since they had cosplay competition and they even gave giveaways to the first



100 people who came in cosplay! Addition to that, the grand prize for the competition was P10,000. cash. The minor prizes were Skullcandy headphones, Elecom Bluetooth speaker & Instax mini camera.



The event started with the introduction of Starmarie's members and then the crowd were given the opportunity to take pictures of them onstage. The first song that they performed was Who Killed Circus, followed by The Three-starred Restaurant -Paul's invitation then Cinderella can live only 124 days the rest of her life and their new song: Net Auction Babies.

It was then followed by the performance of Morning Musume Remix whom covered songs from the idol group Morning Musume '15. It was then preceded by the performance of Rurouni Kenshin.



STARMARIE

PRESENTS

TOKYO COSPLAY BATTLE

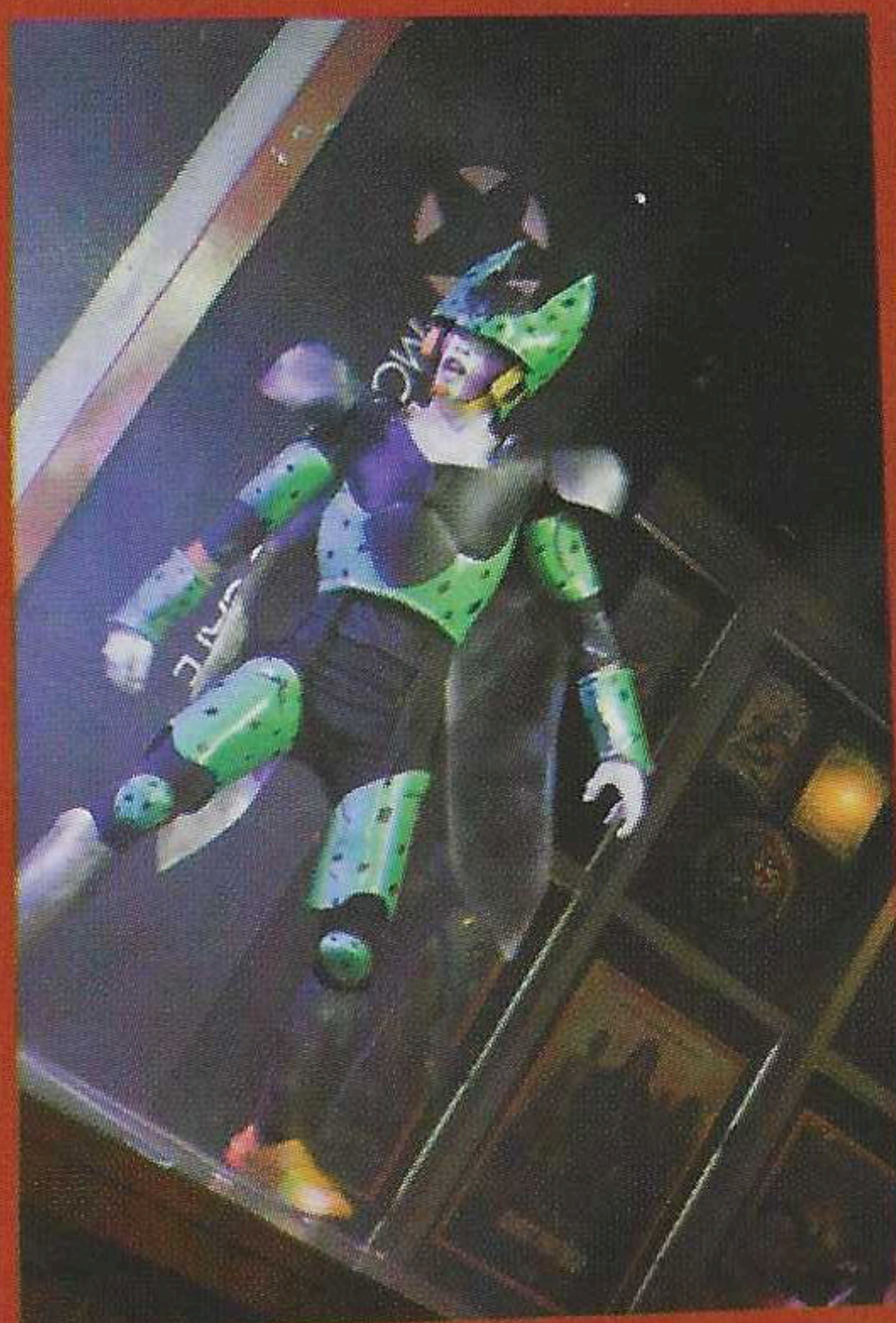
STARMARIE ASIA TOUR 2015 ~FANTASTIC~

Two of Starmarie's fans also came all the way from Japan to watch them perform here in the Philippines and also to be able to meet them once more. There were also Filipino cosplayers that were invited. Miyumi ang Gumiu. Miyumi cosplayed as Aoi Kiriya from Aikatsu andd Gumiu cosplayed as Hatsune Miku, Red Riding Hood version from vocaloid.



A surprise was prepared for the attendees by STARMARIE. Monya came to the stage cosplaying Nico Yazawa from Love Live! School Idol Project which made the attendees really happy and cheer for her plus other members of STARMARIE. Different genres and anime have seen during the competition. All of them were great onstage not only for their costumes but their skits as well.





STARMARIE merchandise were also available during the event such as posters, CD's, DVD's, and shirts. Single CD costs 300 pesos and the CD compilation of their songs costs 400 pesos. For the posters, it costs 200 pesos each and the shirts cost 1000 each. In addition to that, you may also take a picture with the STARMARIE members. 200 pesos for each member and 1000 pesos with all of the members. This also includes that it can be signed by the STARMARIE members after their performance onstage.

After the Cosplay competition, Tokyo Girls performed onstage different J-pop songs that the audience will surely enjoy. Then, STARMARIE returns onstage to perform for the second time. When the members took their exit, the crowd chanted "encore" for several minutes then STARMARIE agreed to it by performing once again.

Starmarie did not only one encore but 2 encores during the event and everyone was really happy to it; the crowd and STARMARIE.

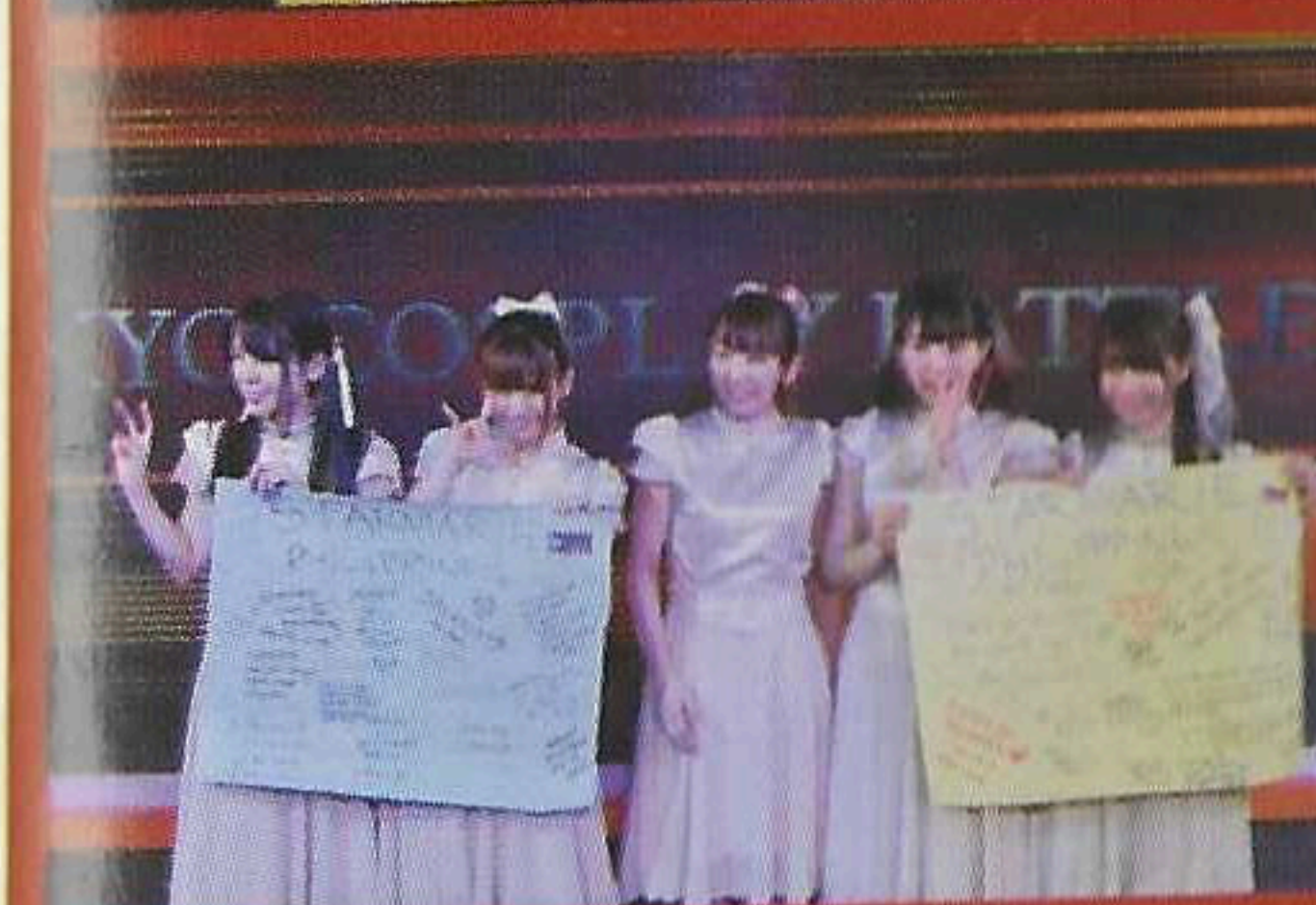


The Cosplay competition winners were announced after. Tantin Legaspi Meneses won the grand prize who cosplayed as Erza Scarlet from Fairy Tail

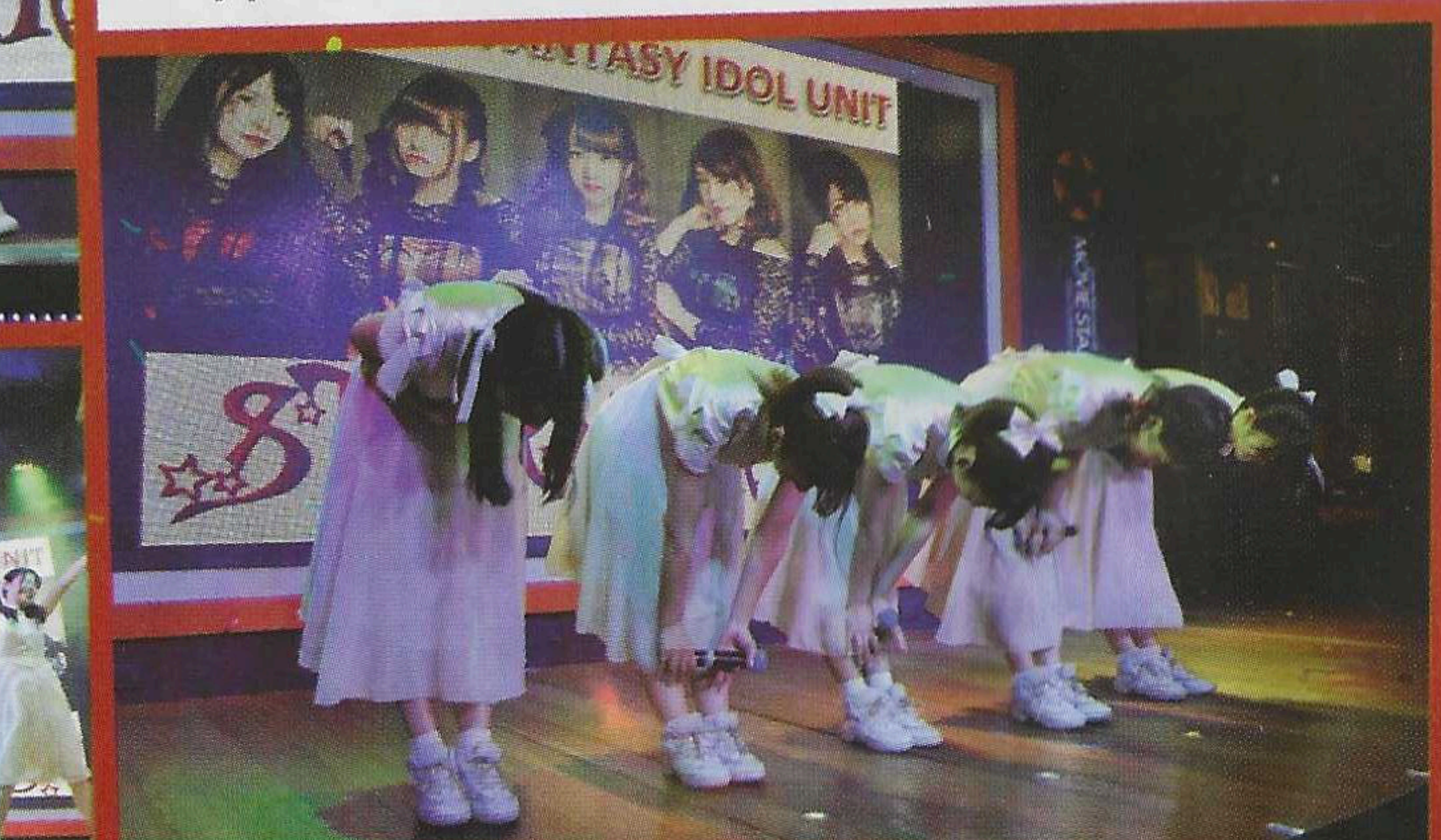
The autograph session with STARMARIE came next. People were given time to prepare and buy merchandise of STARMARIE! The line of the autograph session is long but people wait patiently for their turn to have an autograph and picture with STARMARIE.



STARMARIE Philippines: a group for the fans and supporters mostly here in the Philippines prepared 7 colorful cartolinas where people can write their messages for each member. As for the 2 remaining cartolinas, it will be for the people's message for STARMARIE as a whole. These messages made every member really happy and some of them even cried! Also, all attendees and STARMARIE had a group picture onstage; holding the messages given to them. STARMARIE would definitely want to go back here in the PHILIPPINES but no announcement when will it be as of now.



This event is indeed great and successful one! For only 200 pesos (500 pesos with food and drinks), you will be able to meet and watch STARMARIE plus if you come in cosplay, you will receive a gift from STARMARIE. It's not usual you get to see an idol from Japan to have a concert here in the Philippines plus you will be able to see and meet them close up. With STARMARIE coming here in the Philippines, they were able to create a large fanbase. They got to show us their greatness in singing and dancing not only on music videos and their music but also during live. Most people are only waiting for one thing and that is their comeback here in the Philippines once more!





プラスチック メモリーズ PLASTIC MEMORIES

PROOF OF EXISTENCE

by: Mikelle

"I hope one day, you'll be reunited with the one you cherish"

In psychological terms, Memory is known as the process in which information is encoded, stored and retrieved. There are also various types of memories such as sensory, short-term and long-term. Nevertheless, memories are very convenient since it lets almost all living things remember what they have done, encountered and saw.

Many believe that the most important use of our memories is remembering others, especially those that have left us and have passed on. Our memories of them serve as a proof that they existed and that they shall always be remembered.

In the far future, humans live together with androids that highly resemble human features which have begun to



spread worldwide. There is however a certain model from SAI Corp that houses the most amount of emotion and are more similar to humans unlike any other androids that have been developed thus far, called Giftia.



At first glance, Giftias seems to be the perfect companions since they can display affections like any other human being, but there is a fatal glitch that even highly advanced technology cannot overcome. Giftias have a service life, they possess a life span of 81,920 hours which is approximately 9 years and 4 months and past that threshold; their programming gets corrupted, their body's limiters are removed and they begin to act violent thus they are called Wanderers that acts based on their instincts, not on memories.



Plastic Memories, known by the fan base as Pla-Memo, is a 13-episode anime series directed by Yoshiyuki Fujiwara and is produced by Doga Kobo studio which premiered in Japan between April and June of 2015. The anime's opening theme is "Ring of Fortune" sung by Eri Sasaki while the ending theme is "Asayake Starmine" by Asami Imai.

The story revolved around Tsukasa who failed his college exams and instead started working at Terminal Service with the help of his father. Tsukasa is then teamed up with Isla and together they were tasked with the retrieval of Giftias who are approaching their expiration. Though the job doesn't look as easy as it sounds, the duo will experience many joys and hardships along the way and would that ultimately affect their outlook in life and also their relationships.

CHARACTERS:

TSUKASA MIZUGAKI

Tsukasa failed his college entrance exams due to medical issues and was instead got a job at Terminal Service because of his father's recommendation. He was a total newbie when he started his job and totally has no idea on what his job entails at first, but after being partnered with Isla, he eventually got a hold of what to do as Tsukasa slowly becomes attached to her and his other colleagues.



ISLA

Isla is a Giftia with a childish appearance and was assigned as Tsukasa's partner. She was previously Kazuki's partner and was rumored to be quite a veteran on the job, but her clumsiness and fleeting personality says otherwise. Before partnering up with Tsukasa, she was always on standby and mainly serves tea at the office.

At first, Isla was holding back her feelings and did her best to avoid getting close to Tsukasa due to the reason that she has almost lived out most of her service time and she does not want to hurt Tsukasa or at least minimize the damage. Her feelings for Tsukasa gradually build up although Isla herself is unaware of what she is feeling.



MICHRU KINOSHIMA

Michiru is Tsukasa's tsundere co-worker and is also his self-proclaimed superior in the job. She grew up being raised by a Giftia and had a traumatic childhood experience due to some unfortunate chain of events which led her to join the Terminal Service. Michiru gradually develops feeling for Tsukasa but strongly refuses to admit it.



ZACK

Zack is a Giftia that looks like a young boy and was assigned as Michiru's partner. His hobby seems to be teasing others though her primary target is Michiru where the former always announces the latter's embarrassing secrets.



KAZUKI KUWAMAMI

Kazuki is Tsukasa's acting boss in the Terminal Service and was Isla's previous partner. Past event led Isla and Kazuki to walk different paths although Kazuki still secretly protects Isla from many dangerous elements, mostly Tsukasa's advance towards Isla. Despite her insistence of always drinking out, she's actually very weak to alcohol.

CONSTANCE

A gentleman-like Giftia currently assigned as Kazuki's partner. He always tries his best to help out everyone at Terminal Service 1 but his methods are sometimes over the top.



ERU MIKU

Eru works as an engineer and provides maintenance to Terminal Service's Giftias. She always acts with a happy-go-lucky attitude and dotes on Isla to the point that she's always convincing her to wear cute outfits. Eru is very close with the young members of the office and quickly became friends with Tsukasa after he started working.



TERMINAL SERVICE

SAI Corp Terminal Service's primary job is the retrieval of Giftias that are nearing the end of their life span. They are responsible for erasing Giftia's memories and separating them from their companion or families. It may sound inhumane but they are doing so in order to avoid Giftia's personality disintegration and outbreaks of Wanderers that poses threats to civilians.

Terminal Service No.1 is unique as they are not like the other offices that would do anything to for retrieval. They provide emotional after care for the family members that were left behind. To efficiently carry out this task, Terminal Service deploys a team consisting of a Spotter and a Marksman for retrieval purposes. Spotters are the humans that acts as the supervisor of the field job while the Marksman are Giftias that handles the odd jobs such as communicating with the host family.

Plastic Memories displays the deep relationship between man and technology, although technology has personified in the form of Giftias, it still portrays the beauty of human relations as well as the hardships of parting and reunions. The anime is officially tagged as sci-fi and rom-com but the show is definitely more than that. If you are ready for a roller coaster ride of laughter and tears then try a dose of Plastic Memories.



Due to its success and popularity, a manga spin-off entitled Plastic Memories: Say to Good-bye has started serialization in Dengeki G's comic. The manga features Michiru Kinushima as the main protagonist and the story is retold from her point of view.



CHARACTER BIO

by Mikelles

PRISMA ILLYA

Character Profile

True Identity:
 Illyasviel von Einzbern
Class: Magical Girl
Partner: Magical Ruby
Age: 10 years old
Birthday: July 20
Likes: Snow, Big Brother
Dislikes: Cats
Bloodline: Einzbern



Illya was a normal school girl who lives with her family in Fuyuki City, which was until she encounters Magical Ruby and accidentally enters a contract with her. Since then she was forced by Rin, Ruby's former master, to come under her tutelage and was tasked with the duty of defeating the manifestations of seven different Class Cards scattered throughout the city.

With Ruby's help, Illya is able to transform into a magical girl where she gains enhanced attributes such as improved strength, boosted speed and heightened sense. The most notable upgrade is that Ruby provides Illya with a large amount of mana that enables her to use many abilities such as flight, mana manifestation attacks and most importantly, the use different Class Cards that they have obtained.



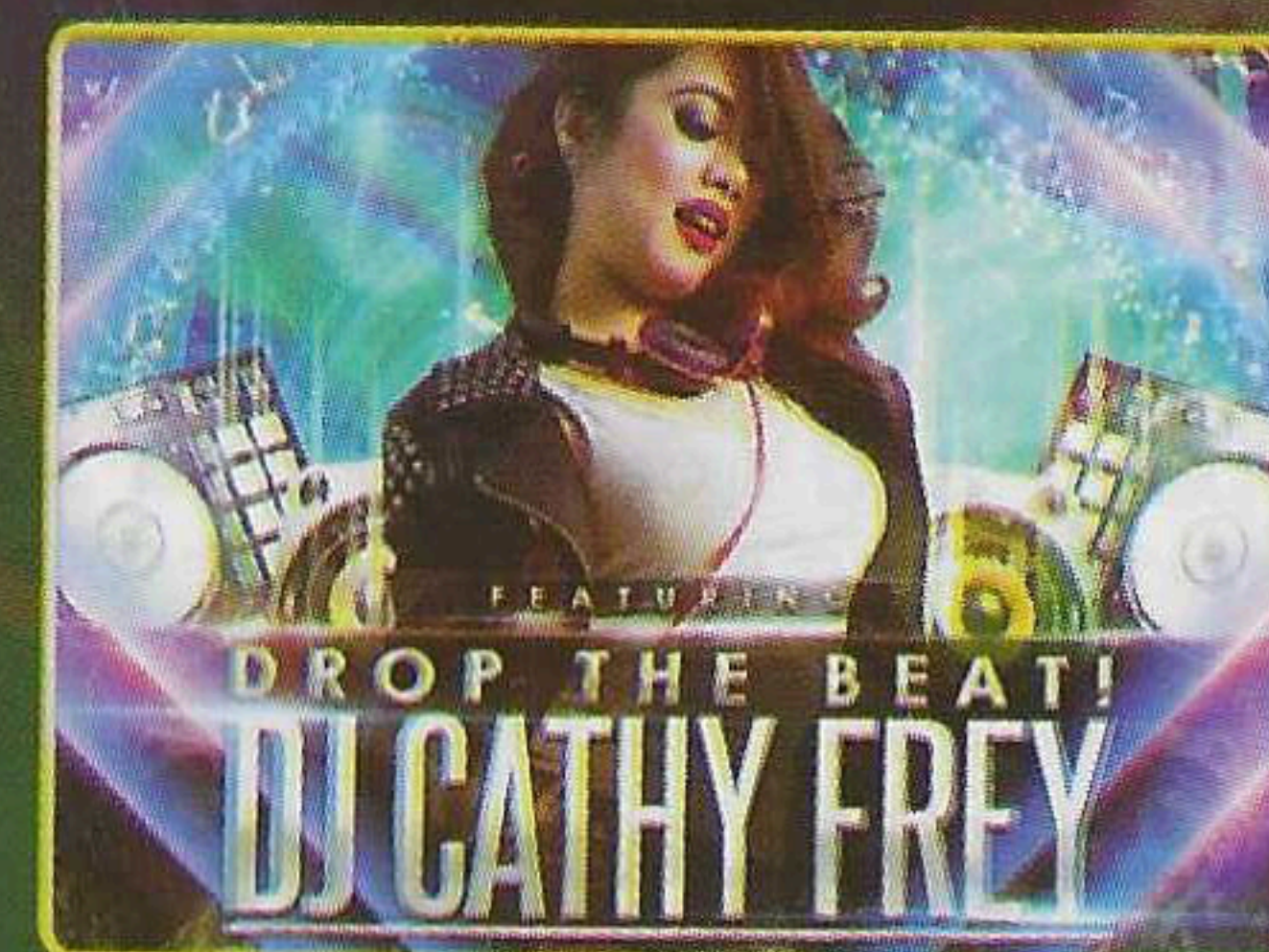
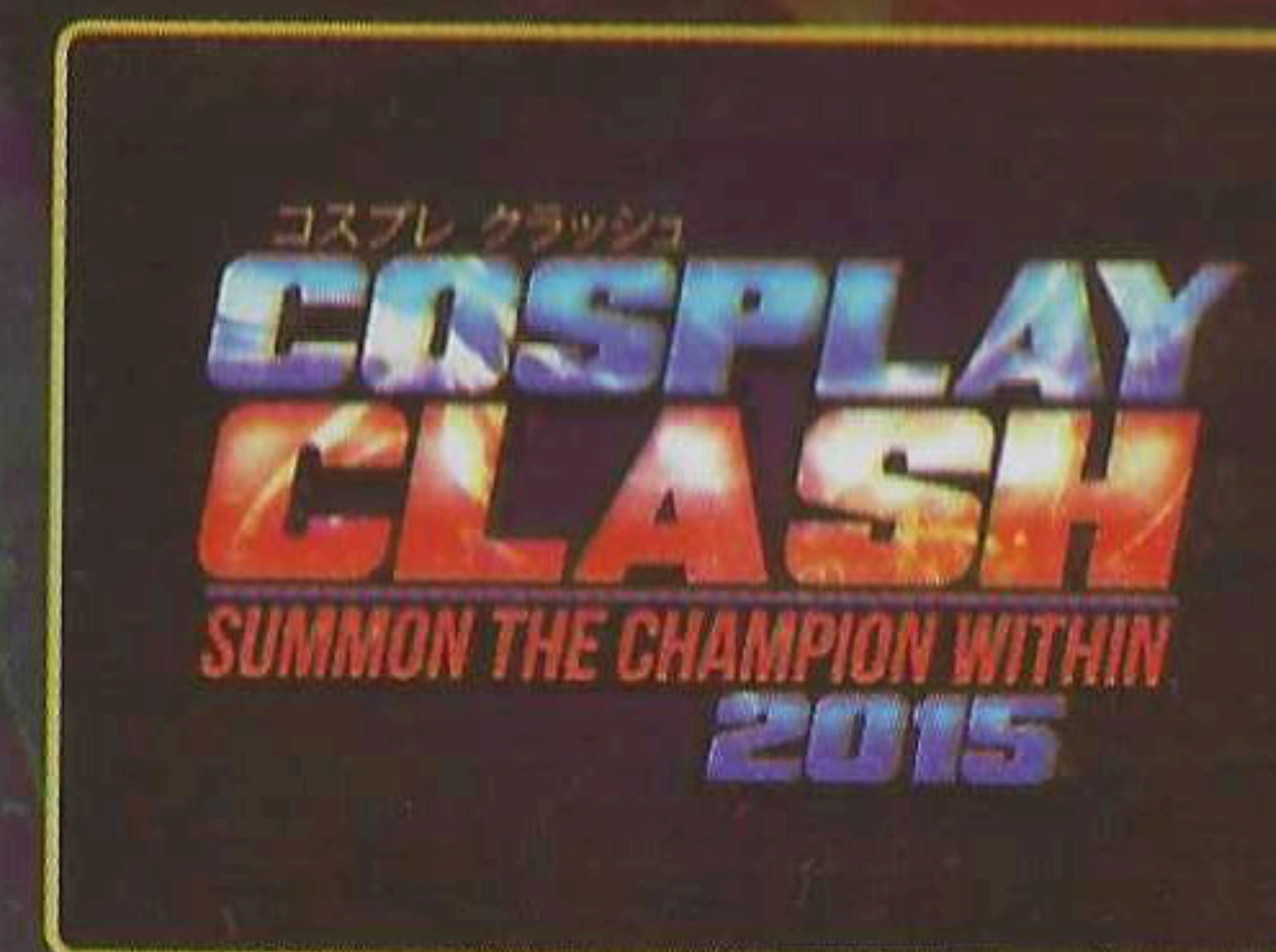
As others may know, Illya is very different from her Fate/stay night counterpart in comparison to many aspects. Her history and background is also quite different although this version of Illya is still very interesting to observe as though she is a different persona of the original.

Illya exhibits a very cheerful and positive attitude as she always welcomes a new day with a smile on her face. Illya also seems to be quite adept when it comes to sports as she is quite agile and is good at running. She might act rather cowardly at first but she later displays an ability to quickly adapt to whatever situation she is placed in. Illya also is also very honest in displaying her affections towards her classmates and family, especially towards her big brother Shirou and her best friend Miu.

PRESENTS

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REVIEWS

SMALL RESTAURANT, BIG ADVENTURES

WORKING!! SEASON 3

by Ren

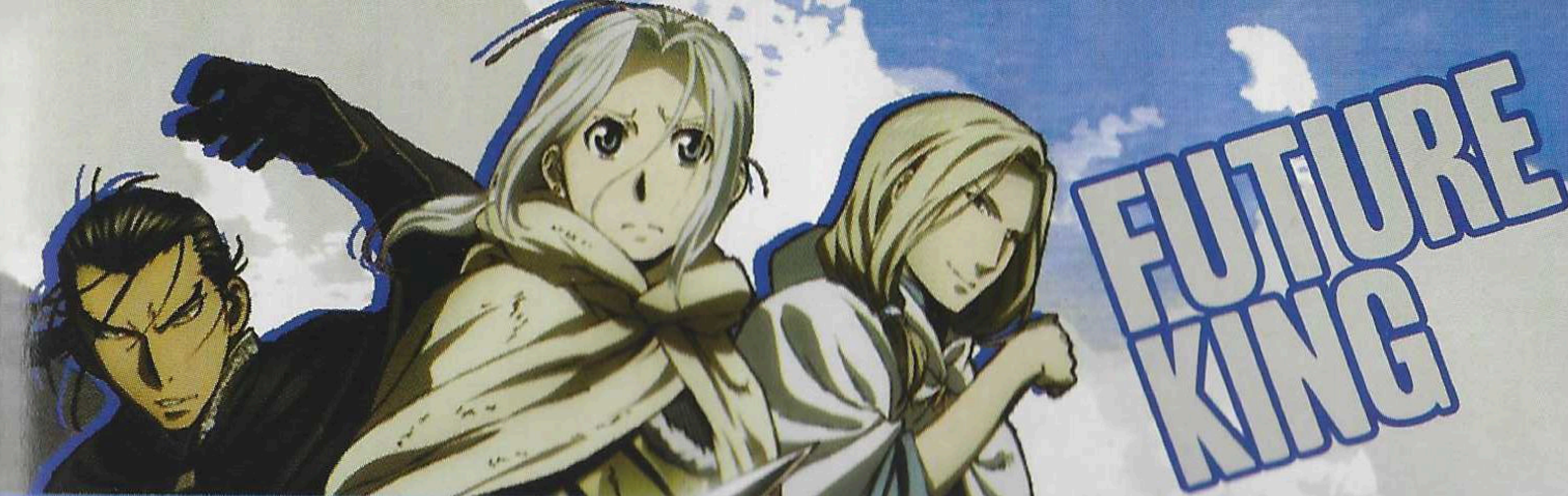
When one is very interested with something or someone, you try to spend some time with it in order to know more about this person or this thing. In Sota's case, he attempts to do so by applying in a restaurant.

Working!! revolves around the story of **Sota Takanashi**, a high school student who is obsessed with anything cute. Sota who applied and got a job in a small restaurant called **Wagnaria** with an attempt to spend more time with the **Popura Taneshima**, a girl whom he has a deep affection for because of her cuteness. In this place, he also gets acquainted with bunch of different people with pretty unique personalities, such as: a former bandit, a man-hater, a fugitive. Throughout the series, Sota had to cross-dress with the alias **Kotori-chan**.

In the earlier seasons, Sota decided to cure **Mahira Inami's** hatred for male and through this; she began to have interest with Sota. With the new season hitting the screen soon, will Sota win over the heart of Popura or will he be able to have something with Mahiru?

The comedy and slice of life series, *Working!!* is originally a four-panel comic strip manga that is written and illustrated by **Karino Takatsu**. The series began serialization back in January 2005 in **Square Enix's Young Gangan** seinen manga magazine. It had a drama CD adaptation back in between 2007 and 2009. The series already has two seasons that is produced by A-1 Pictures with the first season aired back in 2010. The anticipated third season will air this July 2015.

Want to know more of the adventures of Sota? Now is the time to watch *Working!!*



ARSLAN SENKI

by Ren

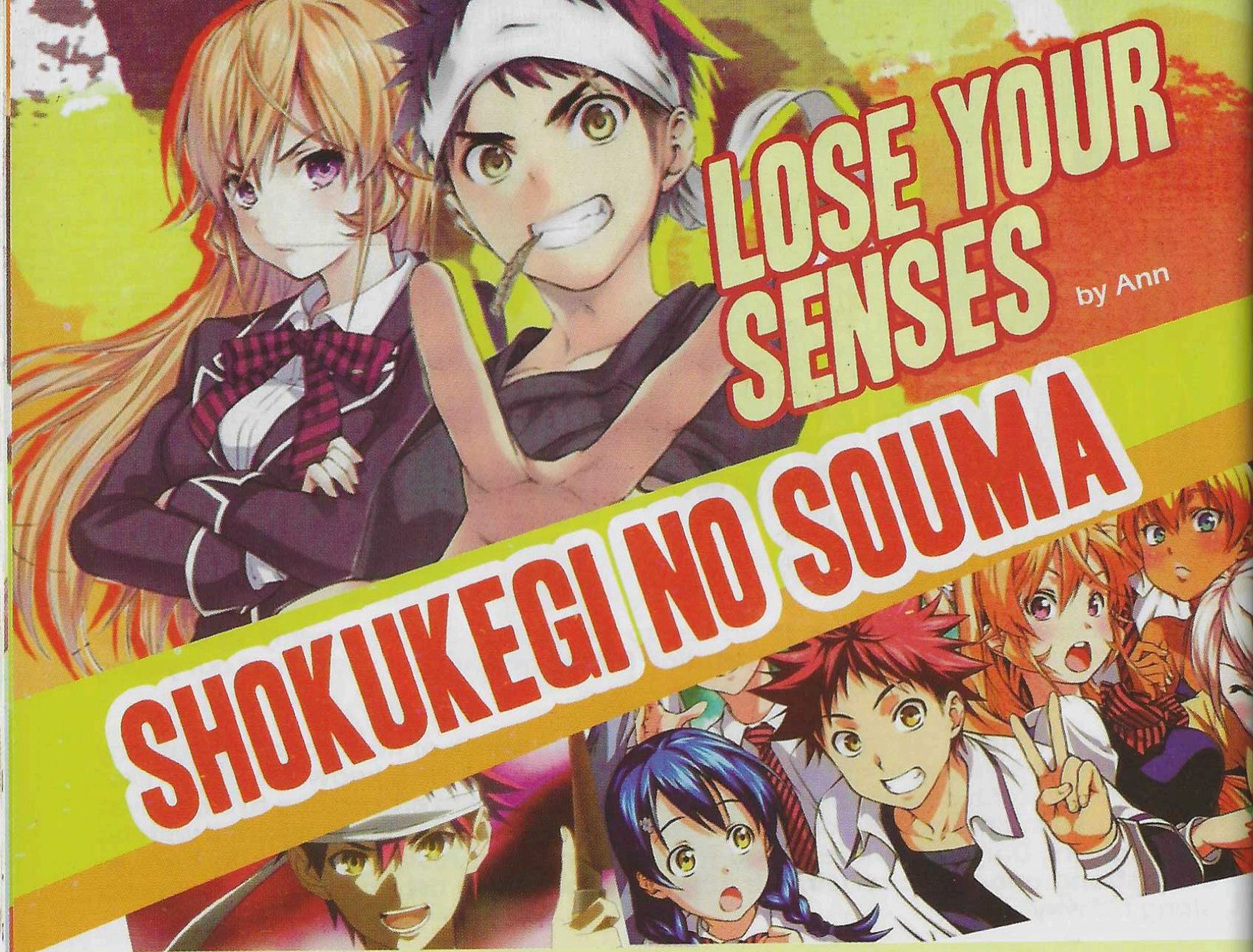
What makes a true king? Is it power to be feared by the enemy and fellow countrymen or kindness and consideration for the people? Let's see what our young prince chooses on his path to being king.

Arslan Senki follows the story of **Arslan**, the young prince of the strong and wealthy country of **Pars**. Arslan might be weak on the outside but he is known to have a kind heart. His peaceful days in the country of Pars had come to an end due to a betrayal. Barely surviving the attack from the enemy country of **Lusitania**, he rejoined with his loyal servant **Daryoon** and escaped from the enemies. Arslan journeys to form an army strong enough to reclaim his kingdom along with the companions he meets along his way.

This story is originally a novel series by **Yoshiki Tanaka** that is based from a Persian epic called **Amir Arsalan**. The story is then adapted into a manga that ran from 1991 to 1996 and received an OVA and film adaptations. Back in 2014, it received a second manga adaptation that is illustrated by **Hiromu Arakawa** who is best known for *Fullmetal Alchemist*. Announced back in 2014, *Arslan Senki* received an anime adaptation that began airing this April 2015.



Follow Arslan's journey in his road to save his country and to be king in *Arslan Senki*!



LOSE YOUR SENSES by Ann

SHOKUKEGI NO SOUMA

We all believe that schooling changes everything, but for **Souma Yukihira**, his lifelong dream of becoming a full-time chef is at stake! Although Souma's goal seems pretty easy, he faces the biggest challenge of competing to be part of the graduates of an elite culinary school. What's the bigger challenge? This school has become popular for having only 10% of all the students being able to graduate!

Shokugeki no Souma or **Food Wars** is a 24-episode anime adaptation of **Yūto Tsukuda** and **Shun Saeki's** comedy manga of the same name. First published on **Shueisha's Weekly Shonen Jump** in November 2012, the manga continues to be published until its thirteenth volume just this June. On the other hand, **Yoshitomo Yonetani** directs the anime adaptation and **Shogo Yasukawa** writes the series script.

The anime series follows the adventures of Souma as he deals with the challenge of Joichiro, his father: to graduate from Totsuki Academy, an elite culinary school. Only by doing so can he save their restaurant from closing and be close enough to surpassing his father's culinary skills.

The anime is best associated with the word "foodgasms" because of sumptuous-looking food leaving the audience with their mouths watering. While the anime does have some ecchi features here and there, it does not overpower its hilariousness.



ALL THE COLORS IN BETWEEN by Ann

GRISAIA NO RAKUEN

Popular legend says that at the end of the rainbow is a pot of gold, but while you might not find a real treasure there, the journey itself is a colorful wonder. As the five female students of **Mihama Academy**, **Amane**, **Makina**, **Sachi**, **Yumiko**, and **Michiru**, combine their different stories to understand their path, what might be the pot of gold waiting for them as they uncover the past of the man who gave them hope? What can they do to save **Yuuji Kazami** and their school from closing down?

Following **Grisaia no Meikyuu**, which was released in April this year, **Grisaia no Rakuen** is a 10-episode anime series released a week after. It was produced by 8-Bit and directed by Tensho. In addition, this anime series serves as the last of the trilogy beginning from **The Fruit of Grisaia**, which was originally an adult romance visual novel released by Front Wing in February 2011.

The five students of Mihama Academy discuss more events in the past of Yuuji, especially his involvement with Heath Oslo, an international terrorist. To be able to help Yuuji come back safely to school after being trapped into the politics of organizations, these students approach the mysterious Thanatos in the hopes of fighting against the political giants disrupting their peace.



While the preceding series offered more fanservice, **Rakuen** gives more substance with the plot that would explain more of the past of Yuuji and his connection to the CIRS, the organization for which Yuuji works. This then fully develops the characters as they come upon decisions to aid in combatting the power play surrounding Yuuji. In turn, uncovering the truth would help them realize the reason that they were gathered in the special school of Mihama Academy.

Each rainbow bridges places, and this labyrinth might truly end up in paradise. Find out in **Grisaia no Rakuen**!

FINAL DIAGNOSIS: SEVERE COOLNESS

by James

TRIAGE

Triage – a process used by doctors and nurses in order to determine which patients to prioritize. **Triage X** – a super-cool anime full of crime, sexy girls, guns, action, violence, and other things that aren't for everyone. So, is this one for you? Get yourself checked by reading our review.

An adaptation of the eponymous manga by author and artist **Satou Shouji** – yes, the guy that brought us *Highschool of the Dead* – **Triage X** is about **Black Label**, a secret organization of surgeons who are tasked to excise the city of all evil – people that the organization as malignant tumors. Their favored method of performing this procedure? By putting a hole in the head of criminal masterminds – with bullets, that is. One of these surgeons is **Arashi Mikami**, a high school student who seems normal on the outside but is actually a bike-slinging, gun-wielding assassin. With their leader **Doctor Mochizuki**, the one who decides on the triages – the choosing of which evildoers to kill – and the rest of the crew: close combat expert **Sayo Hitsugi**, yakuza boss's daughter **Mikoto Kiba**, and tactician **Yuko Sagiri**, Arashi takes down crime lords one by one. But aside from the secret vigilante group that he's in, Arashi also has another secret – a deep, dark one, and it leads him to question the morality of what their group is doing.

The premise, despite not being groundbreaking, is pretty good in itself if you look at the way the anime executes it and consider its nature: a fast-paced action anime about a guy and his all-lady ensemble shooting and killing crime lords. And to be fair, despite the distractions the females provide, it doesn't take much effort to focus on Arashi and the overall story of the show; he doesn't get outshined by the girls either.

With the amount of action anime tropes thrown in, it's easy for critics to reject *Triage X*. However, because it's over-the-top, downright awesome, and has more than enough action and fanservice for the boys and some girls, it's just as easy for anime newcomers and genre-savvy fans to develop an addiction. This show is definitely not the cure for people who are looking for something fresh, but it certainly is for those who are looking for smooth and sexy art and ridiculously amazing action.

SUBARU-SHII! HOUKAGO NO PLEIADES

by James

If you put aliens, a cosplay club, and magical girls in one anime, what do you get? A very weird, dark, and complicated anime that seeks to deconstruct the mahou shoujo genre? Nope. You actually get a clean, wholesome show that plays the genre straight without seeming unoriginal or contrived. So if you've been wanting for a show like that, then consider your wish granted: here's *Houkago no Pleiades*.

You might find it hard to believe, but this series is actually an ad sponsored by Subaru, as said car company paid industry giant **Gainax** to make a 12-episode anime series for Spring 2015 – but of course, it doesn't feel like one. Thankfully, despite the studio's track record of bizarre anime, they managed to stick to the tried-and-tested magical girl formula and retain its intended fun factor and heart. And with Gainax being Gainax, a smooth and beautiful animation and art style is to be expected.



The story is focused on **Subaru**, a happy and sweet girl who's very fond of looking at the night sky with her telescope. Upon her entry to middle school, she gets invited by her old friend Aoi to join the school's cosplay club. But their club isn't really about dressing up and acting like their favorite anime and manga characters; it's to help a cute extraterrestrial called "**The President**" to return to the Pleiades starcluster. Their task will entail a lot of adventure...as well as peril. But of course, it's nothing a little bit of magic, faith, and friendship can't handle.

So if you're young or young at heart and want to believe in magical girls, then you'll be wishing for some *Houkago no Pleiades*.



HOT ANIME

by James

Gods, Weapons, Men

GOD EATER



Thousands of years ago, evolution gave rise to humanity, which became the most dominant species on the planet. Now, could the same thing happen in the future? Will a race more advanced and more powerful than us spring forth and usurp us as the dominant species? Maybe so. Nevertheless, if that were to happen, mankind is not one to give up without a fight – even if they are to go up against gods. It's a struggle for survival in God Eater.



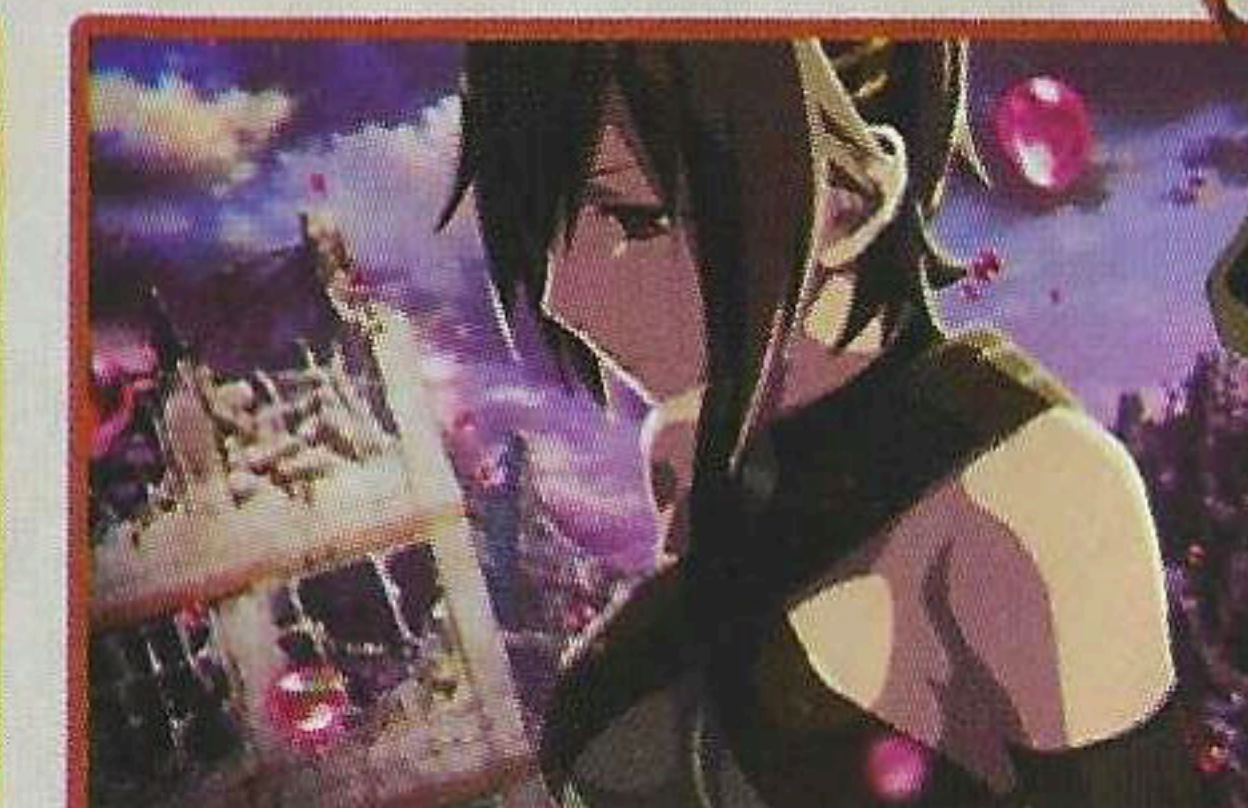
Based on the highly popular PSP game of the same name, God Eater is set in the year 2071, when angry gods called "aragami" rule over the Far East. These powerful and strange beings are made of colonies of oracle cells, life-consuming single-celled organisms that were discovered in the early 2050s. Impervious to conventional weaponry, it seemed as if there is no hope left for humanity. That is until the invention of the God Arcs, weapons that incorporate oracle cells, making them the only arms capable of slaying aragami. These weapons, however, are only as good as their wielders. And for God Arcs, only one kind of person can use them: God Eaters.



Among them is Lenka Utsugi, a new God Eater – and an original to the animated series. Together with returning game characters Rindou Amamiya, Soma Shicksal, Sakuya Tachibana, Kouta Fujiki, and Alisa Ilinichina Amiella, these special men and women who are fighting an uphill battle against these near-invincible monsters have humanity's fate on their shoulders.

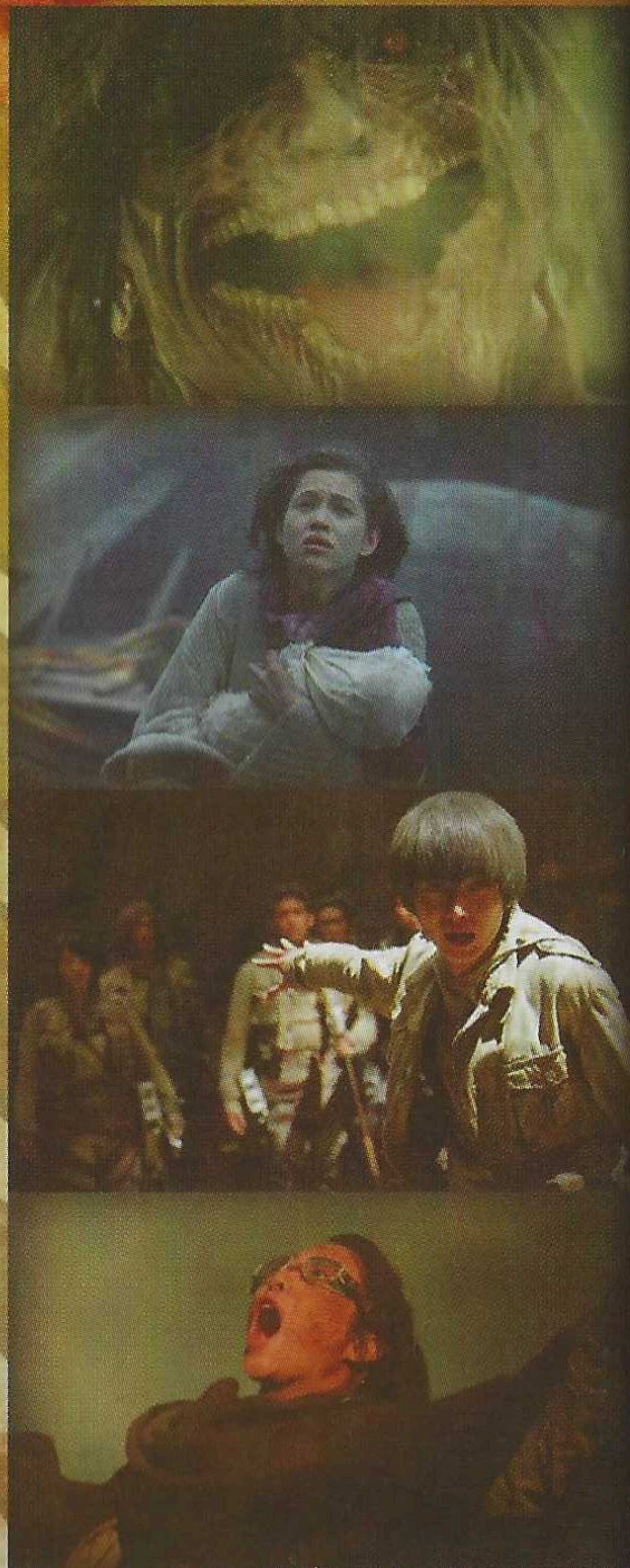


Animation studio Ufotable will be the one to animate the series. The release has been delayed one week later than the intended date, which is July 5, 2015, to ensure that the series has quality art and cinematography. Considering that this is the same animation studio that brought the highly impressive Fate/Stay Night Unlimited Blade Work series, not to mention the highly stylized and seemingly cel-shaded art direction seen on the trailer, it's safe to say that the show is in good hands.



All in all, God Eater is one of the most visually stunning and exciting anime of the summer. A struggle for survival has never looked this breathtaking.





THE RAGE OF HOPE

written by Ann

Throughout August and September, amidst the downpour of water is the downpour of blessings! Indeed, prayers for more of Attack on Titan have been answered, and the two-part live action movie is coming to the big screen!

Set over a hundred years from the time that they had gone, giants called Titans suddenly reappear to terrorize humans and devour them, Eren, together with Mikasa and Armin, stands up as part of the Survey Corps to protect the decreasing number of humans enclosed within their walls. While the walls were built to become the fortress of the city, a colossal Titan comes to crash it down. Will humans prove that size does not matter or will their existence become only a part of a history to be long forgotten?



From the manga created by Hajime Isayama comes a live action movie directed by Shinji Higuchi and written by Yusuke Watanabe and Tomohiro Machiyama.

Haruma Miura stars as Eren, the young man who wishes to avenge the murder of his mother by the Titans. While his strong willingness to join the corps appears as a death wish to some, he embraces the mission to protect the people as he later discovers his secret weapon against the Titans.

Meanwhile, joining Eren is Mikasa, played by Kiko Mizuhara. She is Eren's foster sister who joins him in fulfilling his mission. Following them to their dangerous path is Eren's childhood friend, Armin, acted by Kanata Hongo. Replacing Levi Ackerman in the manga and anime adaptation of Attack on Titan is Shikishima with Hiroki Hasegawa fulfilling the role as the strongest man.



More actors to look forward to are Satomi Ishihara (Hans), Takahiro Miura (Jean), Pierre Taki (Souda), Jun Kunimura (Kubal), Nanami Sakuraba (Sasha), Rina Takeda (Lil), Shu Watanabe (Fukushi), Ayame Misaki (Hiana), and Satoru Matsuo (Sannagi).

As the movie excites fans all over the world with the promising adaptation by Higuchi, who was behind notable storyboarding and special effects such as in Gamera and Gunbuster, everyone is looking out for the key differences of the film to the manga and anime adaptation. For one, all of the actors are Japanese, contradictory to the Western characters of the original story. So, to be expected, they do not all resemble the appearance of the original characters. Despite these creative changes, the film stays true to the plot of Shingeki no Kyojin.



ラブライブ!

School idol project



THE NEVERENDING PARTY STARTS WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE

On top of having successful live concerts and breaking through the music charts in Japan, the Love Live! boom is still going strong even though the anime series has already ended.

"How is this possible?" you asked.

As the franchise is still at the peak of its popularity, fans all over the world are suddenly hooked into the newest online mobile game featuring none other than all nine members of the idol group μ's!



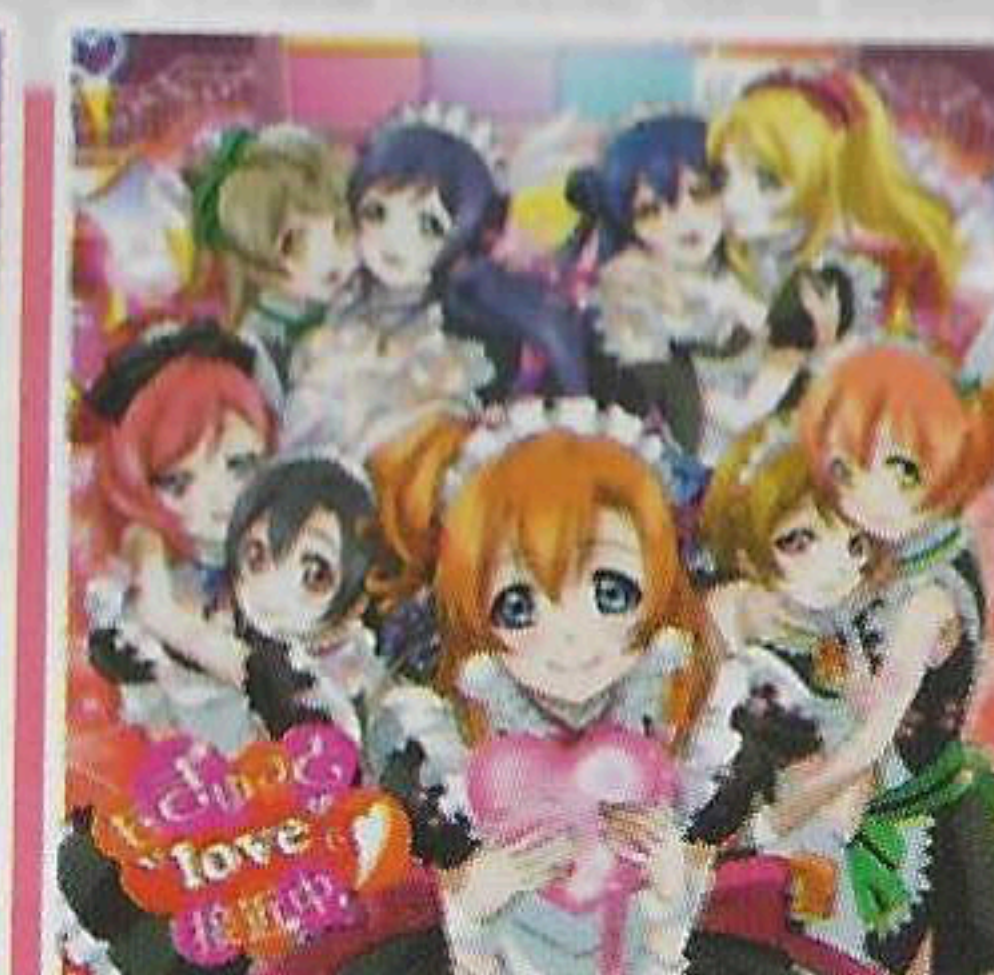
Love Live! School Idol Festival is a free-to-play online rhythm game for the iOS and Android published by Bushiroad and KLab. It was first released in Japan on April 16, 2013 for iOS and June 6, 2013 for Android. An English version was released on May 11, 2014 as "School Idol Festival" at version 1.6.



GAMEPLAY

SIF has two modes: Story and Live Mode.

In Live Mode, players acquire a score by tapping on a circle at the proper time in order to receive a high score that will be shown on the leaderboard. The songs available in the game are the ones featured in the anime. Depending on the player's performance in-game, they will receive new idol cards of various rarity level to add to their team, and can leveled up or transformed by combining them with other idol cards.



In Story Mode, the player works as μ's helper and decides their training and schedule. This game mode is fully-voiced and presents itself like a visual novel. While in this mode, the player may interact with the girls throughout their career as school idols.



Are you still not into Love Live! but has a strong interest in rhythm games? Why not give School Idol Festival a try? You might find yourself being a part of the neverending party sooner or later~



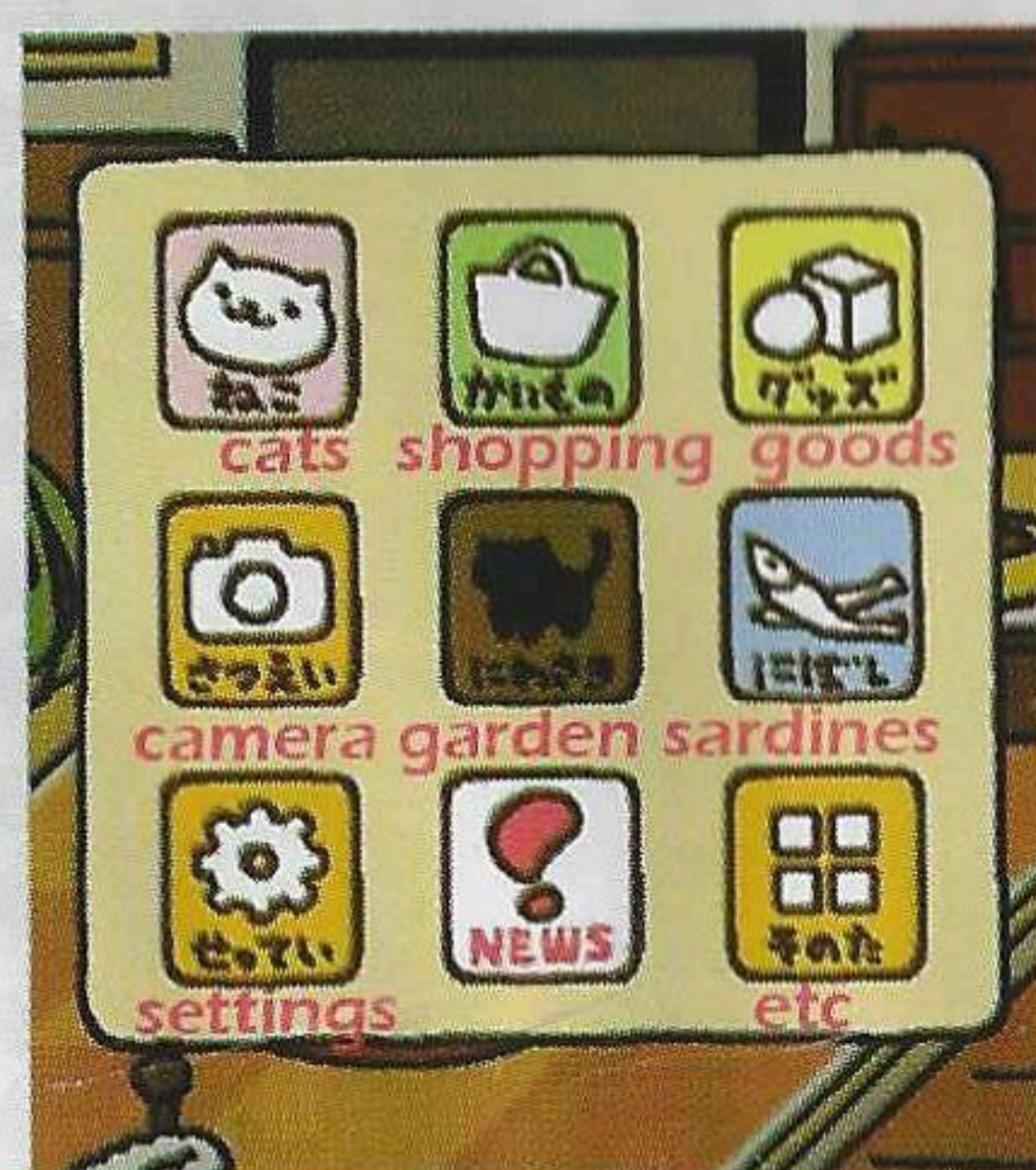
ねこあつめ **neko atsume**

A very popular app game. Made by a Japanese company, Hit-Point Inc. The objective of the game is simple: lure as much cats as you can in your garden. Although there is no English version of the game, it is available outside the Japanese App Store. Just make sure that it has the Japanese title, **ねこあつめ**.

how to play

When you first start, there will be a tutorial. The instructions are in Nihongo but visual clues will help you so just keep tapping the arrows.

As mentioned, the goal is to lure cats into your garden. To do this, you need two things: food and toys.



Food

Tap the bowl of food to refill. Buy high quality food from "shopping".

There is a special (fat white) cat who loves to finish the food for himself. Refill the bowl or wait until he leaves. More fish if you wait.

	Refill every: 8 hrs; free
	6 hrs 30 silver fish
	3hrs 3 gold fish
	3hrs 7 gold fish
	3hrs 12 gold fish
	3hrs 5 gold fish

toys

You have to buy (using fish) to buy toys from "shopping".

Buy your toy and a stamp will appear. Go to "goods" and double tap your toy. You will then get to choose where to put your toy in the garden.

S icon means it's small and only takes up one spot while L icon means it could occupy two or more.

More toys does not necessarily mean more cats.

There are special cats where you have to buy specific items to lure them.

This special cat, Manzoku-san doesn't need specific toys... he comes to eat.

Wait for him to leave. He will give 30+ fish.



specific toys

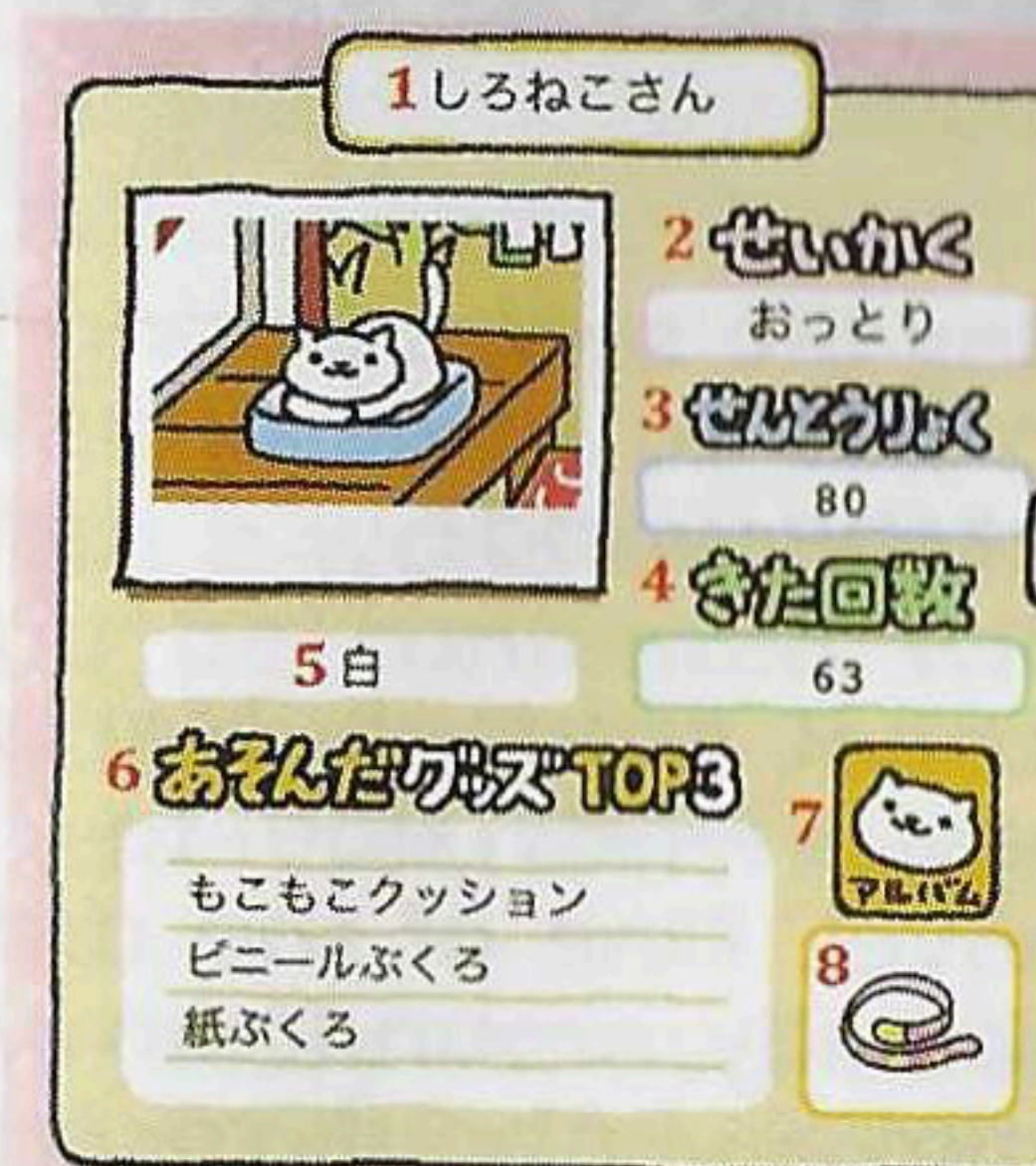
Special cats look different. They have clothes, fluffier fur, accessories, etc.

As mentioned, to get special cats, you need to get specific toys. We will not spoil you the surprise of seeing a different cat on your garden so we'll only share what you need to buy.



cat profile

When cats come, you may tap them and their profile will pop up.



From top, is the name of the cat. You can change it's name by tapping on it. On the right, is (in order) personality, attack strength, number of times visited, album and gift.

Although we say attack strength, there is no fighting in this game. In the album, you see photos that you have taken of your cats. Double tap on one of them to choose a display picture.

Below the display pic is it's physical characteristics and the top three (3) toys the cat plays with.

The gift is blank at first. When you have established friendship and when the cat has come to your garden often, they will give you a gift! The screen will turn dark and the cat will walk to sit in the middle. Tap it to get the gift. Just like normal cats, the gift is often random objects lying around. Like a cicada shell.

cat album

There are two ways to take a picture. Go to Menu then Camera. Or you could tap and hold on a cat.

The photo is then automatically saved on the cat's album. However, it can only hold 18 pictures. There is a 'free' album where you can store up to 48 pictures.

To move your photos there, go to the cat's album, tap on a photo you want to move and two options will appear at the top of the screen. The first one is to delete it and the second to move it.

You can also store other cat's photo in another cat's album.

	フリーアルバム	1/48
	しろねこさん	18/18
	くろねこさん	18/18
	しろくろさん	18/18
	はいいろさん	18/18
	とびみけさん	18/18
	ちゃとらさん	14/18
	しろちゃとらさん	17/18

Final verdict

Neko Atsume was first introduced to us by a fan, Yusra Hana Ambia. We hope you are reading this and also enjoying your cats. We cannot fit everything but we hope this was enough. We enjoyed this game, really. Even without knowing Japanese, the way the game is designed makes it very easy to understand. You can extend your garden to inside the house! At the very last page of "shopping", you can buy it for 180 gold fish~~ waa... this game is so cute and a but relaxing since you only have to leave it be and check up on it in a few hours.



One Minute Hero!

by Ren



Trauma Ryouishi Kesshou

Going through the usual everyday life seems boring to some. How will you react when due to some unusual events, you were asked to protect the world?

The story follows the high school student, **Haruto Tokitou**, who doesn't have any friends due to his addiction to a science fiction novel. One of the usual days changed when time stops, literally, around him and he's the only one who can move. About to take advantage of this unusual event, a girl named **Sakazaki Kuon** arrived and told him that the world is on the verge of crisis and he must ally himself to protect the world. Surprised and confused, Haruto couldn't seem to believe these events until a giant robot-like monster attacked them. The monster is then revealed to be called as **Kouakujaru**, a monster that suspends everything whenever it eats time. Sakazaki handed him a pocket-watch looking device called the Oracle that can kill the Kouakujaru in one blow. Attacking with his acquired weapon, he thought he defeated the monster but, unexpectedly, he was the one killed by it. Using her powers, Sakazaki turned back the time before Haruto got hit and with this, they finally defeated the monster. Finally a member of the "Oracle Guardians", how will Haruto's life go with his new found friends?

Trauma Ryouishi Kesshou is an action comedy and supernatural ongoing series made by Aoki Hayato. The series shows a good balance of comedy and action that makes it enjoyable to read. The series includes characters with different personalities that you'll be interested in.

Join Haruto and his team with their fight in Trauma Ryouishi Kesshou!

Journey Towards Being a King

by Ren



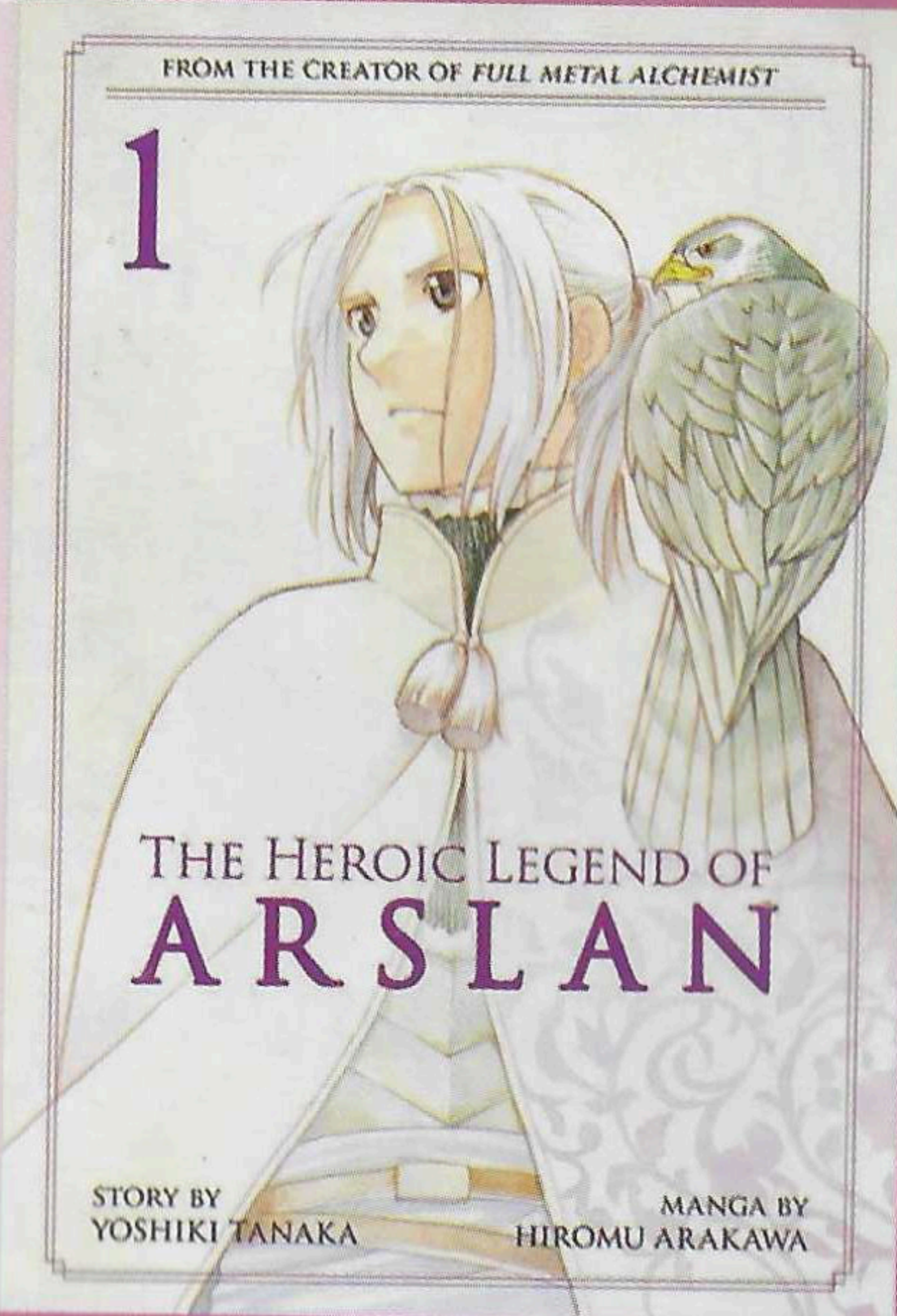
Arslan Senki

With a world and values limited to your birthplace, will you be contented with what you learn within these boundaries? Will you still follow the traditions or change it when you learn new things?

The story follows **Arslan**, the gentle and kind crown prince of the powerful and rich kingdom of **Pars**. Arslan's days remained at peace and the usual until the fall of his country by the neighboring country of **Lusitania** due to a treacherous betrayal. Barely surviving the attack, he rejoins with his loyal servant **Daryun**. Along with other companions: **Narsus**, **Elam**, **Farangis** and **Gieve**, Arslan journeys to assemble an army strong enough to liberate his nation from the hands of the Lusitanian army led by his cousin known as the "**Silvermask**."

Arslan Senki is originally a fantasy novel series written by **Yoshiki Tanaka** and was based on the Persian epic named **Amir Arsalan**. It was published back in 1986 and as of 2014, there are 14 novels and a side story for it. Back in 2014, a second manga adaptation started to be serialized and was illustrated by **Hiromu Arakawa**, who is known for the series **Fullmetal Alchemist** and **Silver Spoon** so expect familiar art style when you read it. As a fantasy story, this has a good mix of adventure, action, drama and a dash of comedy to satisfy your fantasy story needs.

Journey along with Arslan and his companions in his journey to reclaim his land and be a king fit for the people to serve for in Arslan Senki!





My Perfect Little Sister.. or not by Kahlua



Himouto! Umaru-chan

Whether on purpose or not, people have the tendency to act different when they are at home than from when they are outside. But is it possible for a single person to be totally different at home than as we know him outside?

Meet the unbelievable sister of Doma Taihei, Doma Umaru-chan. At school, she is the perfect female high school student: beautiful, composed, and excellent both in academics and sports. Everyone in her school knows her and adores her completely; however, at home, she becomes a himouto – word play of 'himono', a girl who is unsociable, and 'imouto' which means little sister. Only his brother knows about this side of her and it bothers him a lot how Umaru becomes such a slob whenever she's at home.

Written by Sankaku Head, Himouto! Umaru-chan is an ongoing manga series published by Shueisha as a seinen manga in the Weekly Young Jump magazine. It has six known volumes which are being released since 2013. Umaru and Taihei's everyday life is the main focus of the story, and the siblings' interaction always turns out into funny encounters. This manga is best for those who search for light and funny stories to read with illustrations that are also stylish. Moreover, since it is also uncommon to have a story that focuses mainly in the relationship (not romantic) between two siblings, it is amusing to see a whole series with hilarious moments of a brother and sister that some readers might actually relate it in their own real life.

Prepare yourself for the totally humorous life of the 'two-faced' Umaru-chan and Taihei who struggles to tolerate her own sister's craziness!

Poison for the six petal flower!? by Kahlua



Rokka no Yuusha

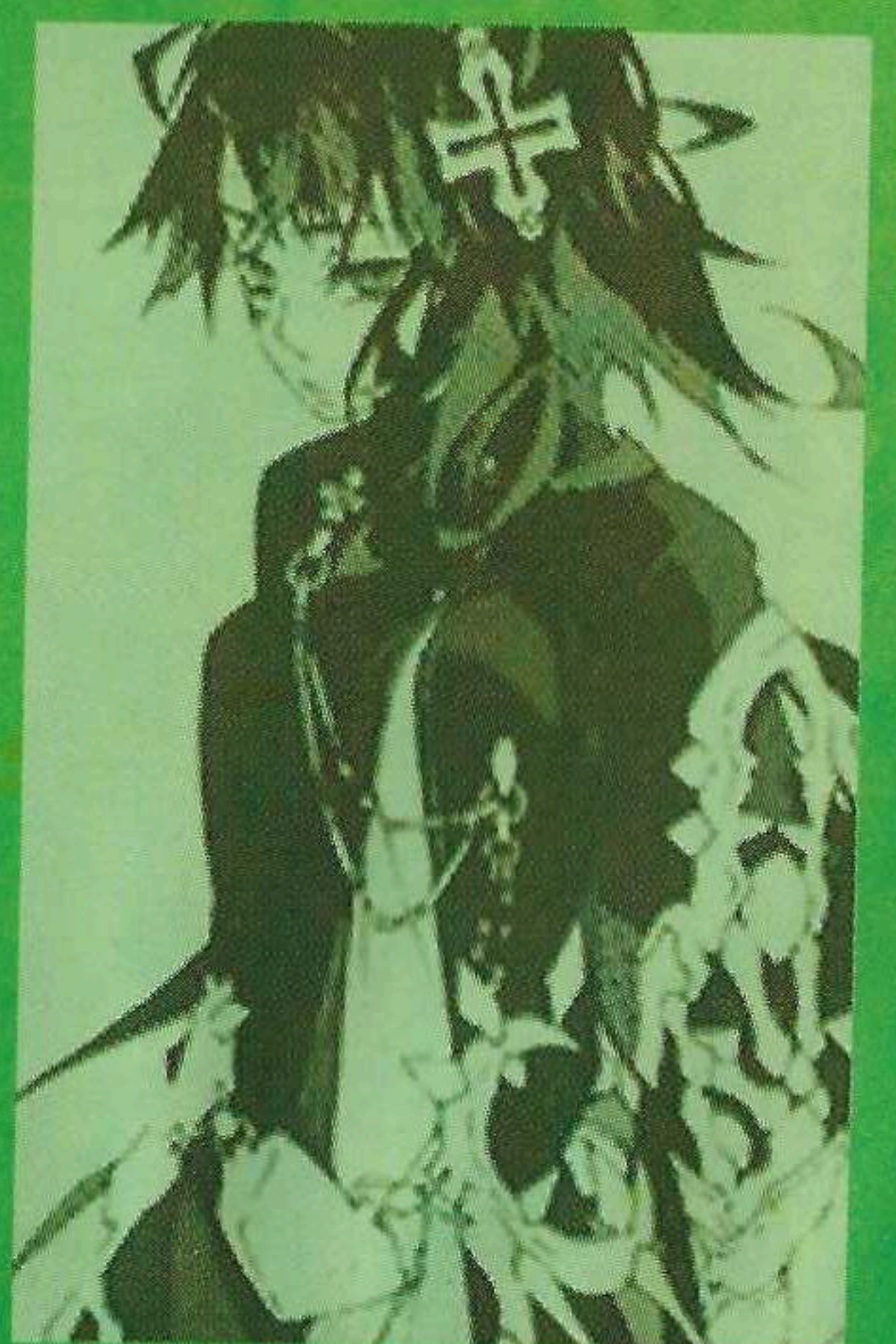
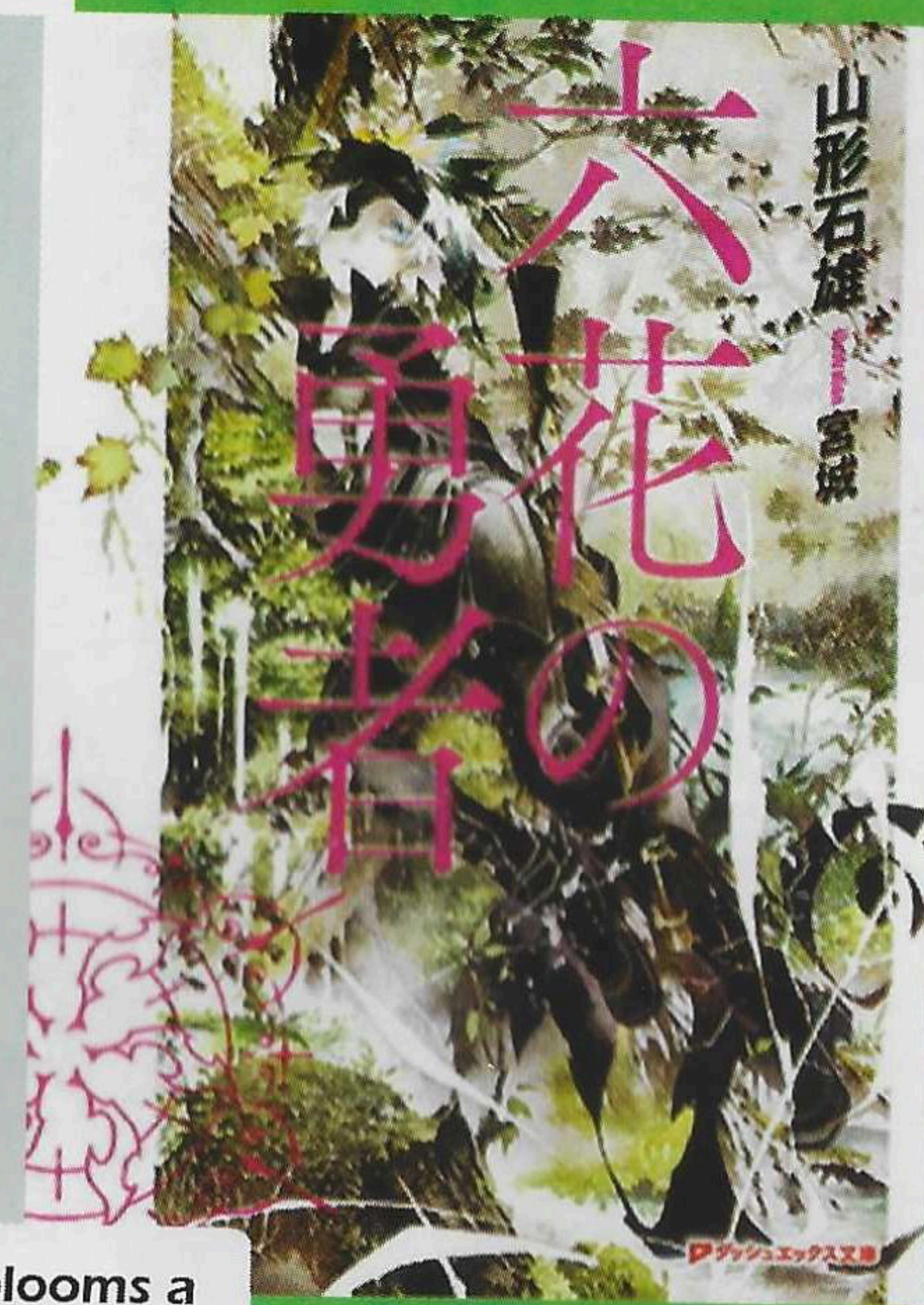
In a world that is in the brink of destruction, there blooms a group of six chosen heroes who are destined to risk their lives for the future of humanity. But when the time comes for them to unite, a seventh hero who plans to annihilate the true heroes from the inside emerged.

A long time ago, the **Majin** and its subordinate called **Makyuu** rampaged and almost conquered the world. When even the Saints couldn't kill them, only the legendary "**Saint of One Flower**" was able to at least put them into sleep. Since then, the Majins awakens after a certain period of time, and when they do, six heroes will be chosen to overpower them again. **Adlet Mayer**, the strongest man in the world, was one of the chosen heroes and as soon as he received the crest of six petal flower, he immediately went to rendezvous with the remaining five heroes. However, a huge wall hit them as they found that there were seven heroes who were gathered instead. Trust and cooperation among them are severed as they suspect each other of being the imposter.

Rokka no Yuusha (Heroes of the Six Flowers) is an ongoing manga series written and illustrated by **Yamagata Ishio** and **Toru Kei**, respectively. Since February 25, 2012, Rokka no Yuusha has currently 3 volumes published by Shueisha in the Super Dash & Go! Magazine.

What makes the series worthwhile of your time is its unique taste of mystery that will make the readers hooked into it. The illustrations also are remarkable and fit its target audience of seinen manga. The story might lack a bit of comedy, but is still great for fantasy and adventure genre followers.

Within the six heroes' range of power is the chance to gain peace once again for the people. Would they still be able to save the world even if a thorn has been planted among them?





No Game of Chance

Aoharu x Kikanjuu

by Ann

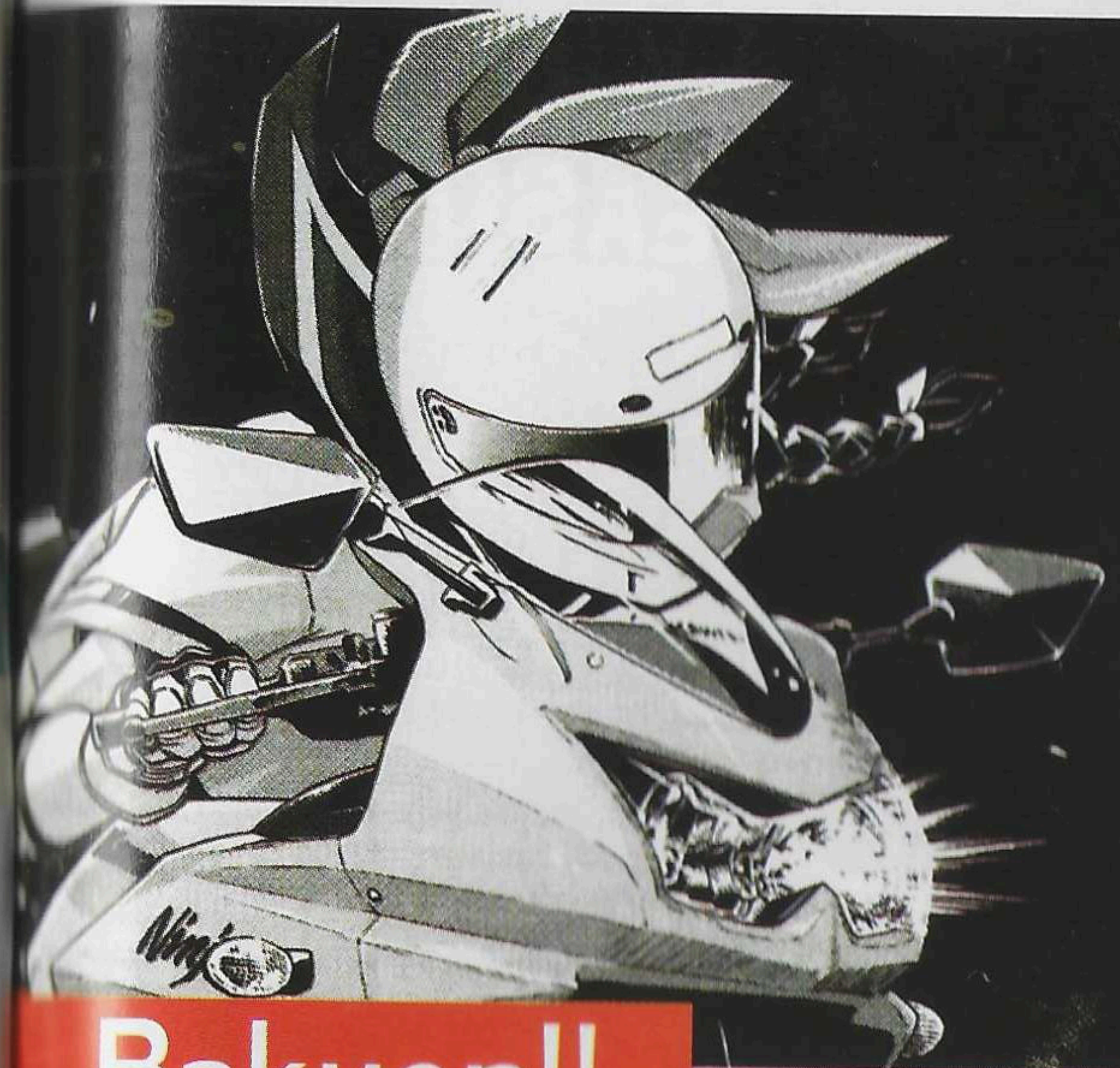
In the wilderness, you must jump through hedges, move swiftly among the shadows of the trees, and shoot an attack that would immediately sting your enemies! This is the battle of the strongest, the selection of the fittest... This is the survival games!

Survival meets more than just pack of action and self-preservation. For the likes of Masamune Matsuoka and Tohru Yukimura, it is a chance to feel alive in their ho-hum adult lives. Meet Matsuoka or Mattsun, a club host who is enraged when people assume that he doesn't work hard because of the way that he looks. But underneath the charming face is a man of strength and wits, able to attack aggressively and provide secure defense. Meanwhile, his childhood friend, Yukimura or Yukki, is the strong support of their team, Toy Gun Gun, but this identity is concealed by his job of being an adult comic author. Joining this troublesome duo is Hotaru, the student council president always being mistaken as a boy. Believing that Mattsun has fooled her friend and taken her money, she challenges Mattsun but ends up owing him and being forced to join the survival games.

Aoharu x Kikanjuu is the six-volume manga created by NAOE and serialized in Monthly GFantasy. It first began as a two-part short story but then was fully developed in January 2013.

While mixing the most unusual characters is a sure-fire formula for a good gag, the combination of Mattsun, Yukki, and Hotaru spells greater trouble as they venture to become the best team in survival games in Japan! Keeping the thrill is the questions on to what their great skills would lead them and what would become of them when they find out that Hotaru is a girl all along.

Shoot or be shot. That is the rule of the game and the rule of life. Are you ready for a manga loaded with action, tactic, and fun? Then, be sure to hit Aoharu x Kinkajuu!



Bakuon!!

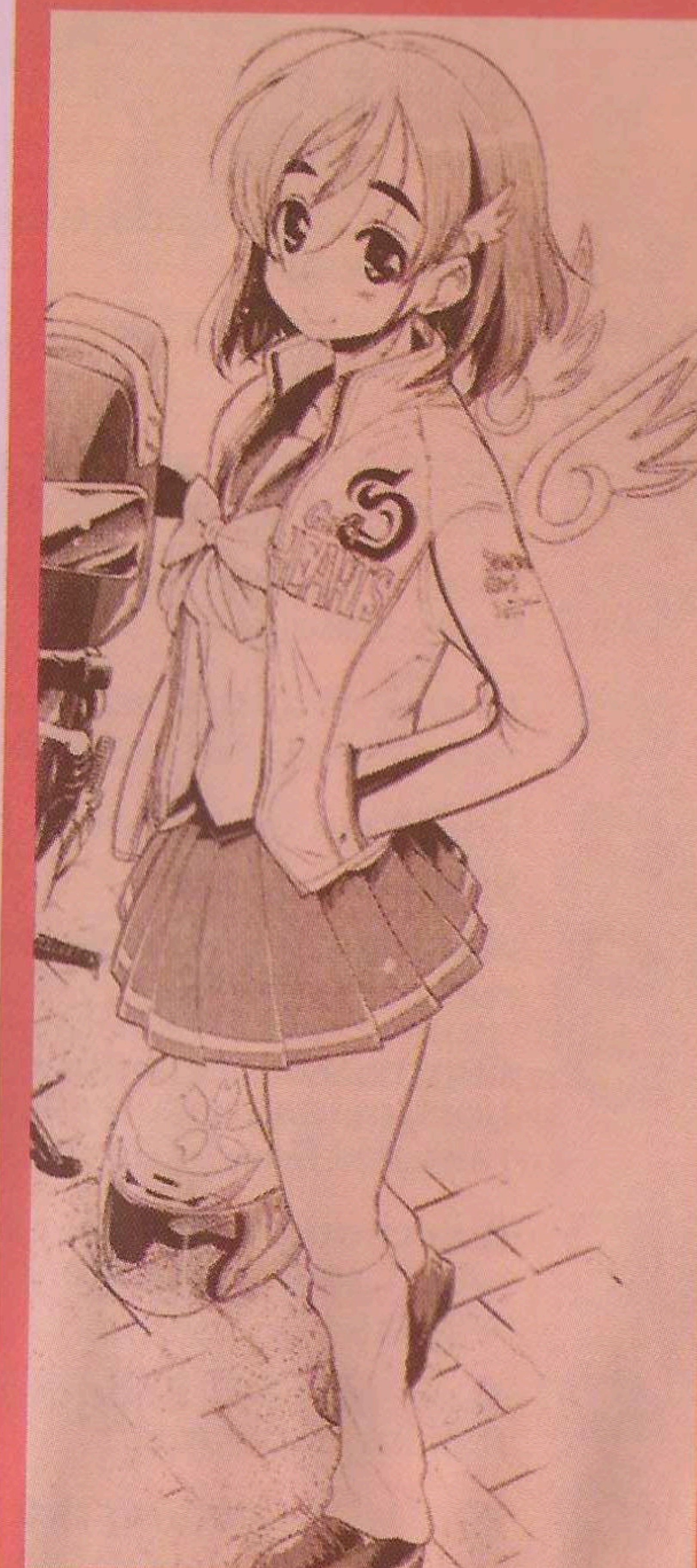
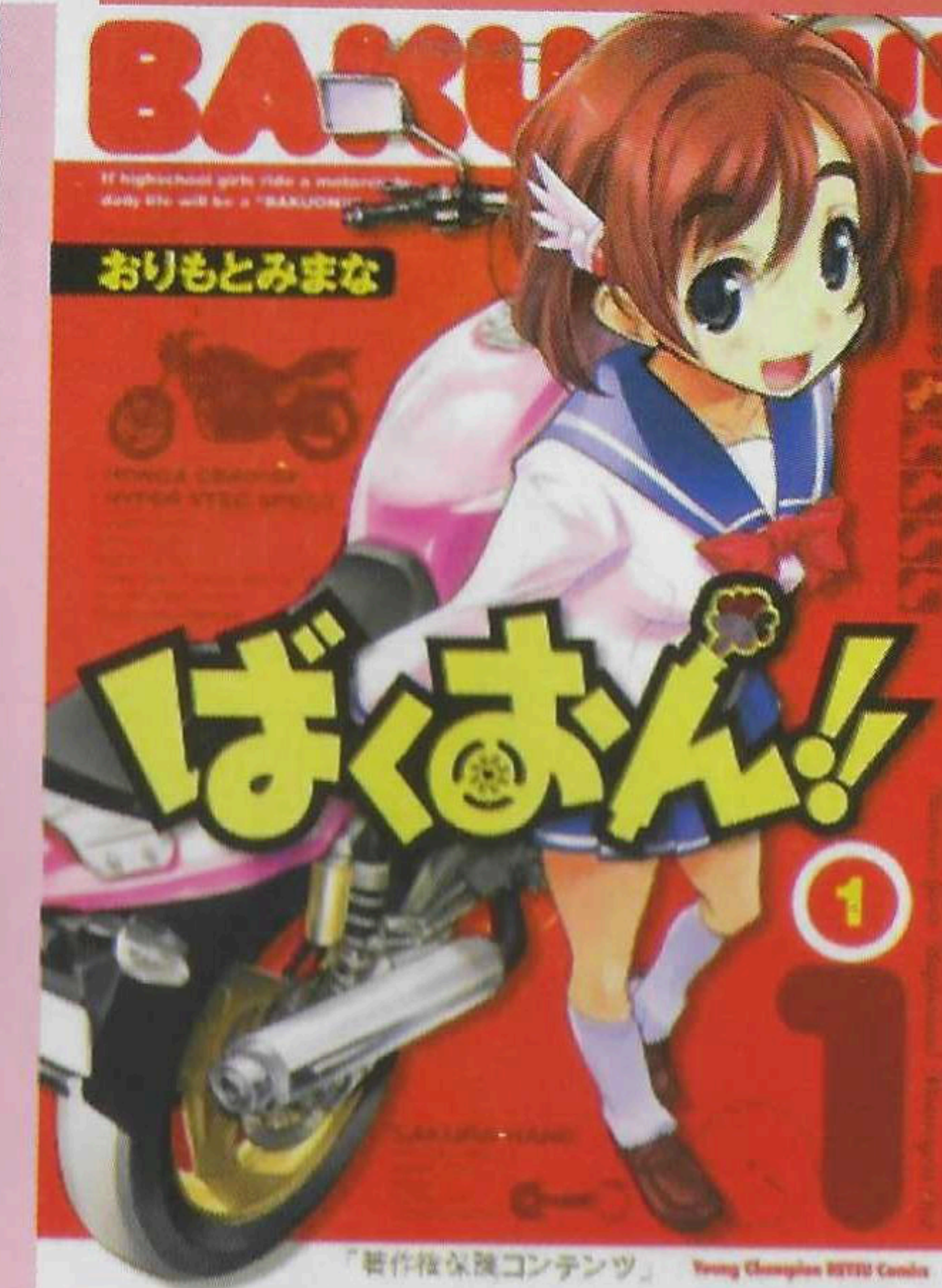
by Ann

Love at first sight fills your senses and makes you blush because of the overwhelming feeling of joy in this encounter. For Sakura Hane, it is definitely love at first sight and sound, but it's not with a boy... but a motorcycle!

On Sakura's first day at an all-female high school, she immediately comes to the point of giving up the idea of going to school on a bike. After all, the school can only be reached by climbing a hilly road. As she stops to catch her breath, she chances upon a freshman riding a motorcycle. As the rider revs up the engine, Sakura is instantly drawn by the sound that it makes. She meets the rider, Onsa Amano, who invites her to join the motorcycle club with her. After a 309 kmph of a ride with Raimu Kawasaki, the only member of the motorcycle club, Sakura decides she will pursue her newfound love but first, she has to get her own license!

Created by Orimoto Mimana, who is also behind Mahou Shoujo Neko X and Maid in Japan, Bakuon!! is a manga that takes the interest of young girls to "a guy thing" to a level in which both male and female audience will enjoy. The series was launched in February 2011 in the seinen Young Champion Retsu magazine. It has had five volumes since.

So, while Onsa says, "Only idiots ride motorcycles," being an idiot in love may not be as bad after all!



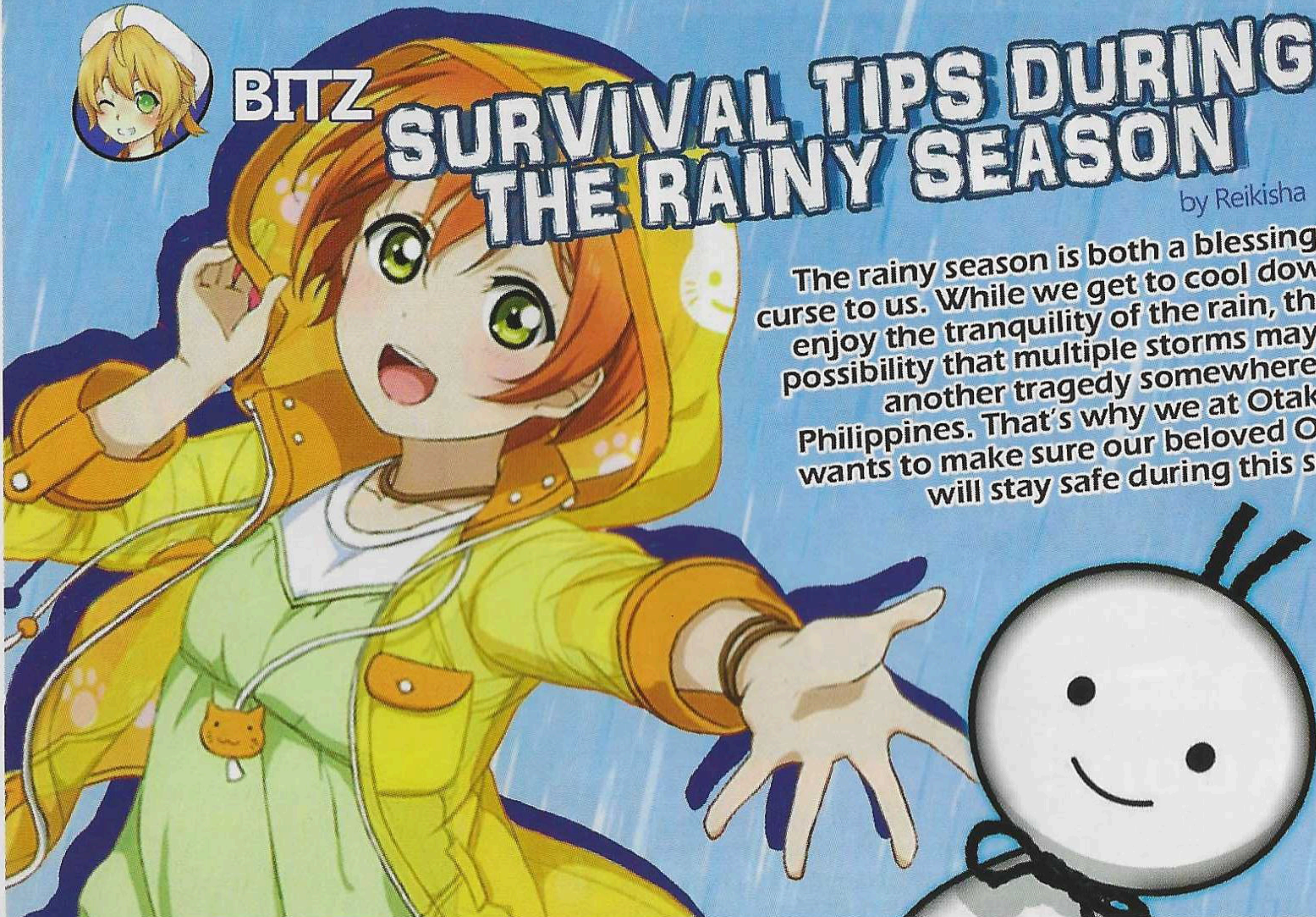


BITZ

SURVIVAL TIPS DURING THE RAINY SEASON

by Reikisha

The rainy season is both a blessing and a curse to us. While we get to cool down and enjoy the tranquility of the rain, there's a possibility that multiple storms may cause another tragedy somewhere in the Philippines. That's why we at Otaku Asia wants to make sure our beloved Otafans will stay safe during this season.



Get the latest update about the weather from local news channels and social media.

Always prepare an umbrella or a raincoat in-case of unexpected heavy rain.

Avoid flooded areas as much as possible because there's a chance that you might get infected with a disease

Take a bath after coming into contact with the rain and dry yourself immediately.

In case of a sudden blackout, make sure that the candle is supported by something that won't be easily toppled (ex: a mug).

The flashlight should be someplace anyone in your household can easily get.

Always keep your powerbanks charged in case that your smartphones run out of battery.

Cancel all appointments you have or pre-emptively contact your boss/manager/team leader if you really can't make it due to the heavy rain and flood. Don't worry, they'll understand.

Buy enough food that will last for at least a week since there's no telling when you can safely go grocery shopping again during the rainy season.

Stay alert for floodwater that may get inside your house as well as leaking rooftops.

And lastly, getting sick is prohibited.

Pink in spring!

by Kahlua

*Sakura's charm lies
On pink petals which dances,
Floats along cool breeze.*

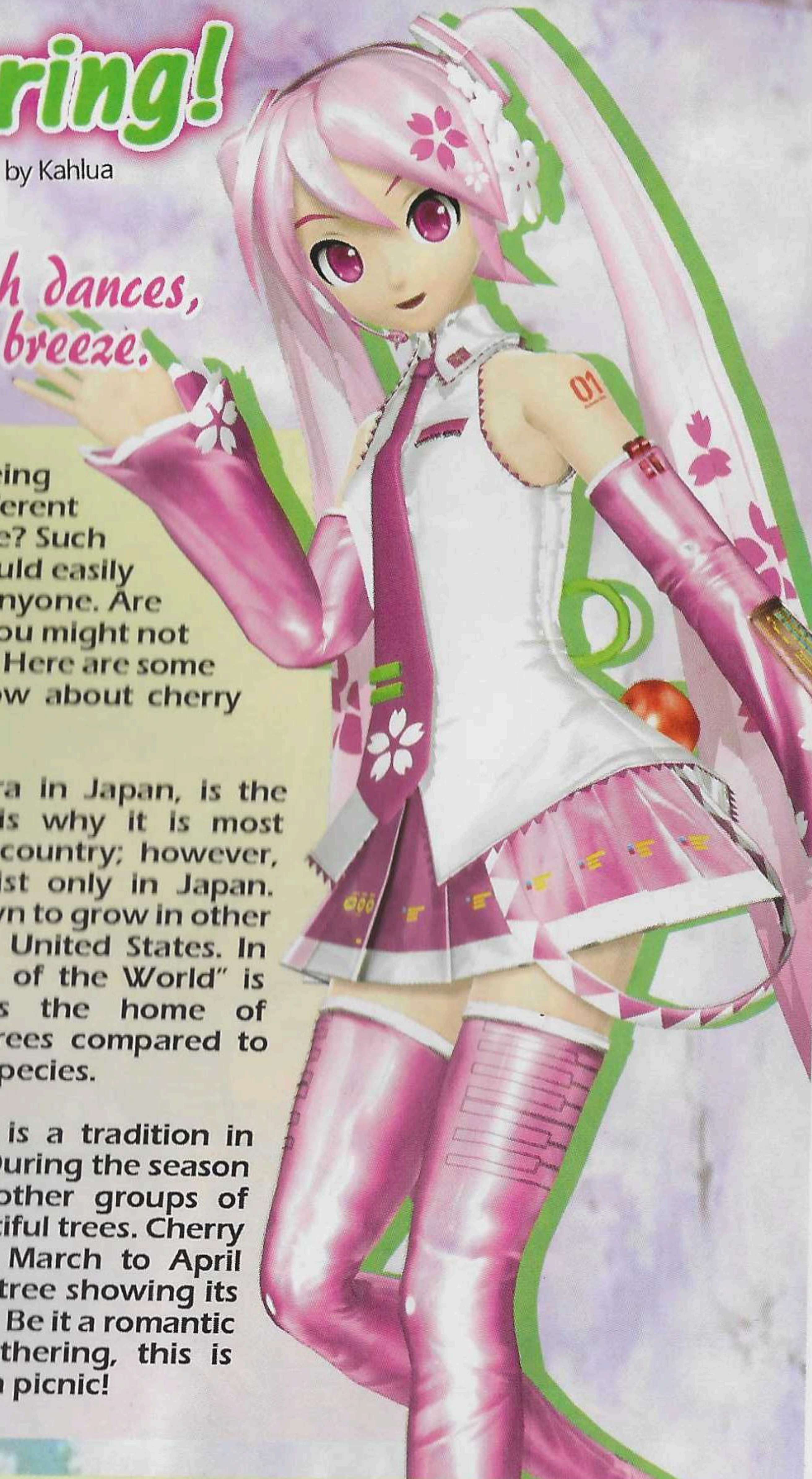
Who would not dream of seeing dozens of trees that blooms different shades of pink flowers in one place? Such a dreamy sight is so beautiful it could easily bring the romance out of you or anyone. Are you curious enough of anything you might not know about cherry blossom trees? Here are some starter facts that you should know about cherry blossoms.

Cherry blossom, known as sakura in Japan, is the country's national flower. This is why it is most popular to see the trees in the country; however, cherry blossom trees do not exist only in Japan. Cherry blossom trees are also known to grow in other countries such as Korea and the United States. In fact, the "Cherry Blossom Capital of the World" is Macon, Georgia, USA as it is the home of approximately 300 000 sakura trees compared to Japan's only 200 000 of different species.

The 'hanami' or 'flower viewing' is a tradition in Japan that started centuries ago. During the season of cherry blossoms, families or other groups of people do picnic under these beautiful trees. Cherry blossoms usually blooms at late March to April every year with each trail of trees tree showing its pink colors only for around a week. Be it a romantic date or a family and friends gathering, this is definitely one of the best view for a picnic!

A lot of cherry blossom-related merchandises are sold during the season. This might be a given, but it is interesting how cherry blossoms can be used as flavors in some food like ice creams, chocolates or shakes sold all over the country. McDonald's Japan is known to recently sell their cherry blossom burgers (they have pink buns!) and drinks.

There are as many different species of cherry blossoms as the ways to enjoy the beautiful season of this flower. But no matter how enchanting a sight could be, it would always look dull to a man with his closed eyes for the true face of the natural world. What's most important is your heart who appreciates this rare sight of nature.





REQUESTS

by John Robert Lim
requested by Marie Dominique Soriano



Fairy Tail's recent anime episodes feature the battle between the Fairy Tail guild and the final Dark Guild, Tartaros. Unlike the previous enemies, Tartaros wasted no time in making their move. They began in high gear, attacking the Magic Council Headquarters. Next, the group decided to go after Laxus and the Thunder God Tribe, resulting in injuries to all four members of the team. With that much damage done in a short while, Natsu, with the rest of the Fairy Tail guild, declares war on the dark guild. The stage has been set for the decisive battle: Fairy Tail vs Tartaros.

Due to Tartaros aiming to completely wipe out magic from the continent, the fate of the world hangs in the balance. That's not all, as Zeref's possible involvement puts a whole new twist into the battle! Who will come out on top?

Fairy Tail continues in its adaptation of Mashima Hiro's ongoing manga. It is broadcasted every Saturday in Japan and is still going strong after going into a year-long hiatus from 2013 to 2014. The Tartaros arc is currently being shown. The arc in the anime began on episode 234, first aired on May 2015.

NISEKOI:

by John Robert Lim
requested by Josh Vince Hatsune Ledesma

Love can be such a complicated thing. Just like a passing wind, people easily fall in and out of it in flashes. We keep looking and searching for the rightful partner and true love. Such is its real nature. But what about false, scripted love? Will there be any chance of it becoming the real thing?

Now, the series returns for a second season, "Nisekoi:" (with an colon!). Adding to the cast of fan-favorite female characters is Haru Onodera, Kosaki's bratty younger sister. With new developments, more comedy scenarios, and far more complications thrown into the mix, the search for the promised girl continues. For our hero, it doesn't look like it's becoming a single bit easier, not with all the harem antics in the way!

Nisekoi's second season aired from April to June of 2015. It continued the adaptation of Naoshi Komi's hit manga with 10 new episodes.

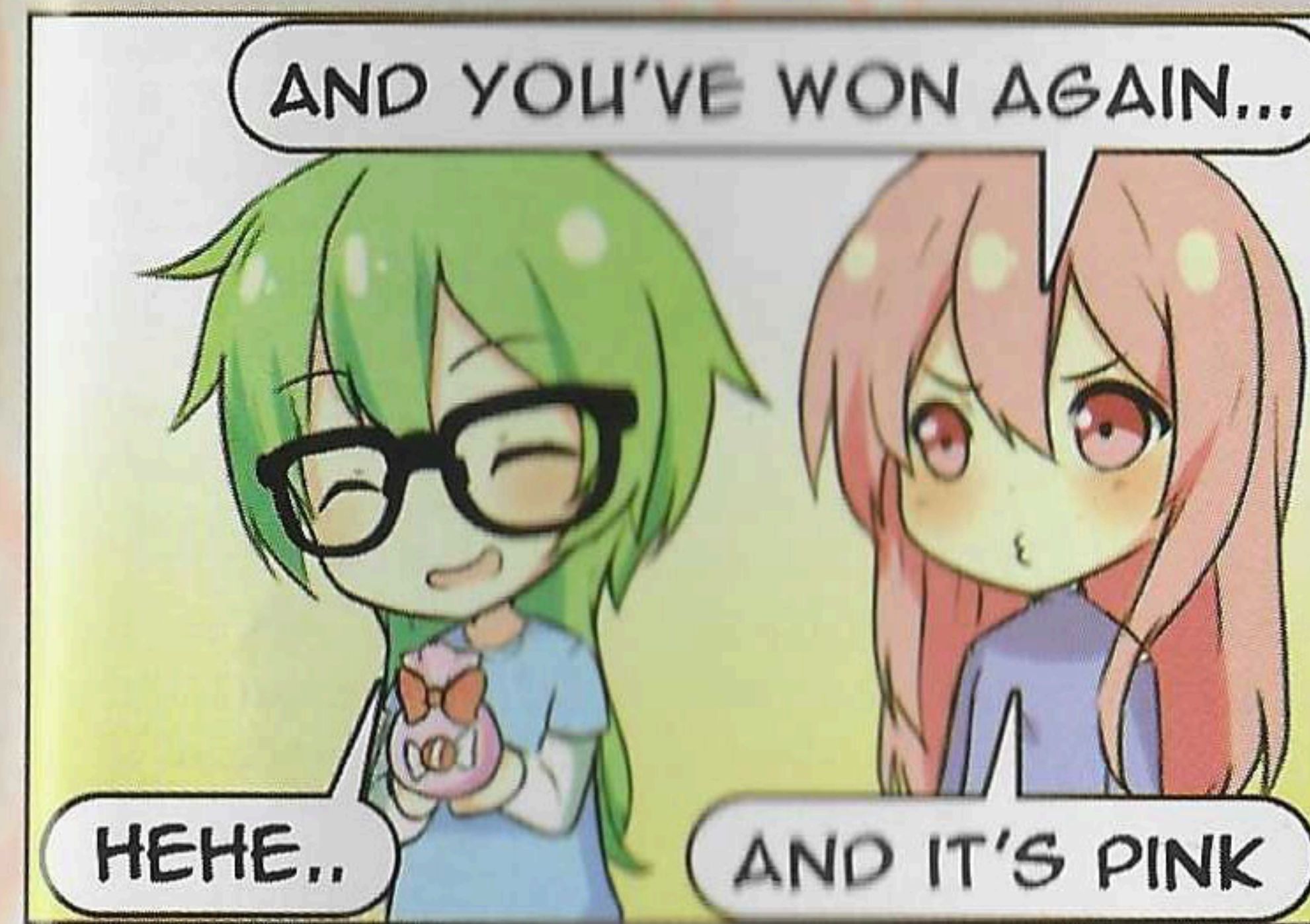
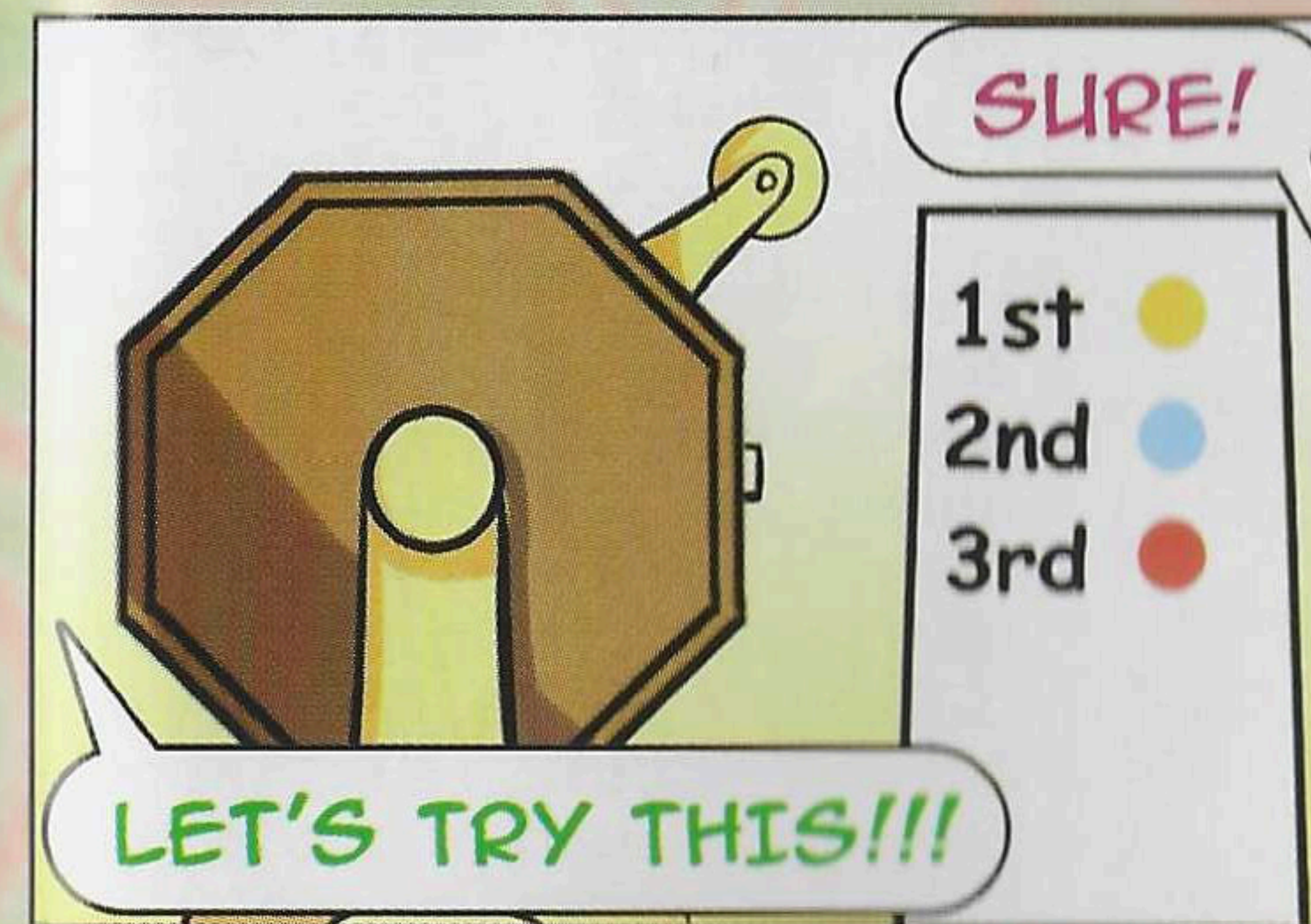
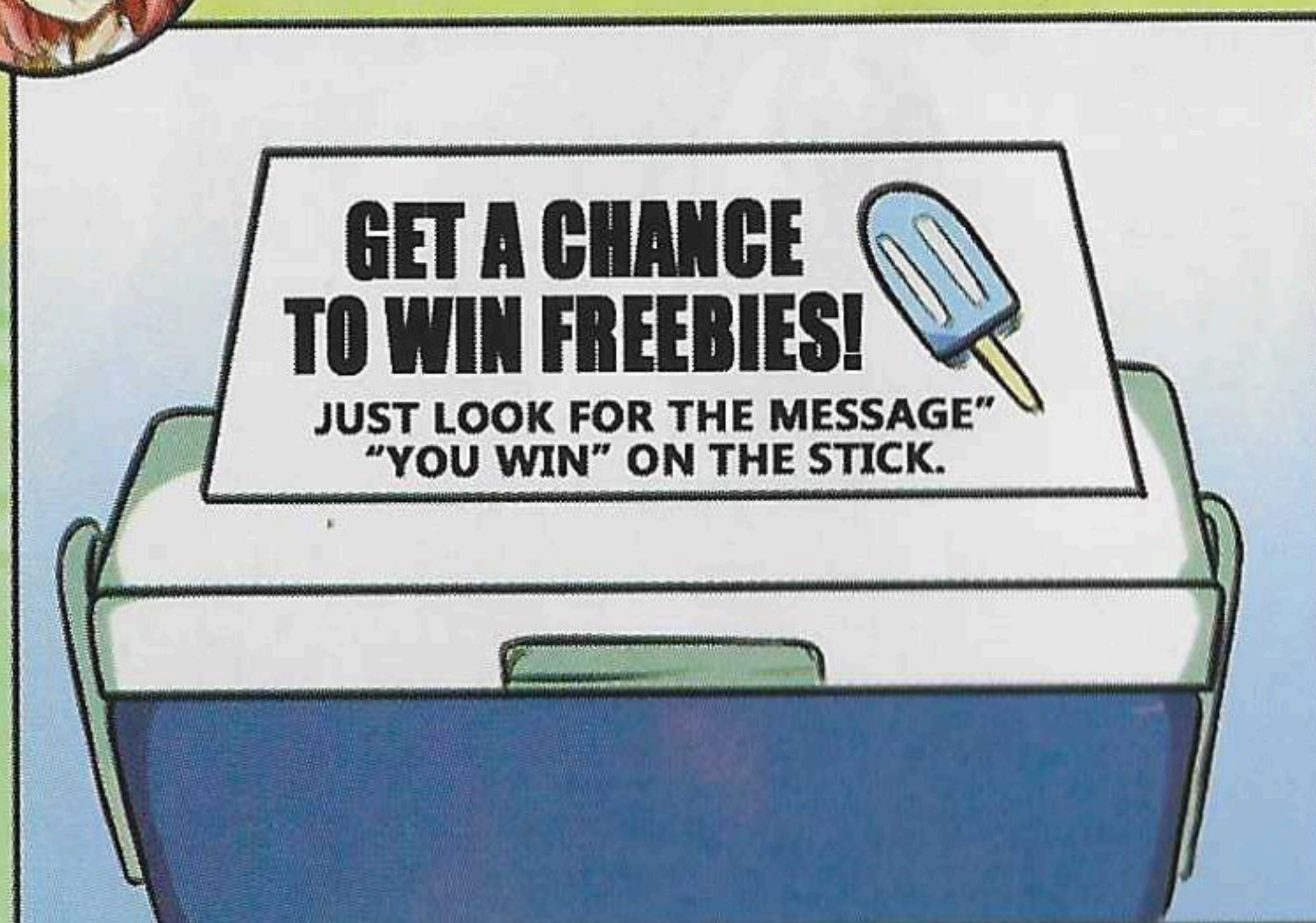
As a show featuring colorful visuals, attractive character designs and a healthy dose of light-hearted laughs, the fun never ends with Nisekoi. Will Raku finally find "The One" that will unlock the key to his heart? Make sure to keep up with the updates in the second season!





O-KUN TALES

LUCKY!!~



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THROWBACK



Photo courtesy of
AnimePH

Before Ashley Misaki, the well-recognized child cosplayer at present, there was Belldandy or more popularly known as "Chii", a child cosplayer back in the year 2008. Her name was given by her parents inspired from the anime "Ah! My Goddess!", and her nickname was from one of the characters in the anime "Chobits". She cosplayed famous comic and movie characters such as Spiderman, Green Lantern, Batgirl, and many more. Her very first cosplay is credited on her first birthday when she dressed up as Wonderwoman.

Ah My Belldandy!

by: lizac 3.0

Belldandy "Chii" Grimarez

Her first official cosplay, however, was not until she cosplayed as Bumblebee from Transformers. Her cosplay of Bumblebee was referred to as "Bumblechii", a portmanteau of the words "Bumblebee" and "Chii". She was only four years old then. For this costume, she won the best female cosplayer award at the event Tagcom 2: The Gathering in 2008. From that point on, her path to cosplay has been decided. She is known to utilize complex and mechanical costumes at a young age.

Still, these milestones in Chii's life would not have been possible without the help of her very supportive family. Chii's family calls themselves "The Grimz", and it is their official group name as well. Her father mainly assists her in stunts which cannot be performed on-stage without a lot of practice. They train for months to achieve their desired skits and their efforts were surely recognized, not only here in the Philippines but also in the US. Chii's father also creates the costumes and props singlehandedly, earning him sleepless nights.

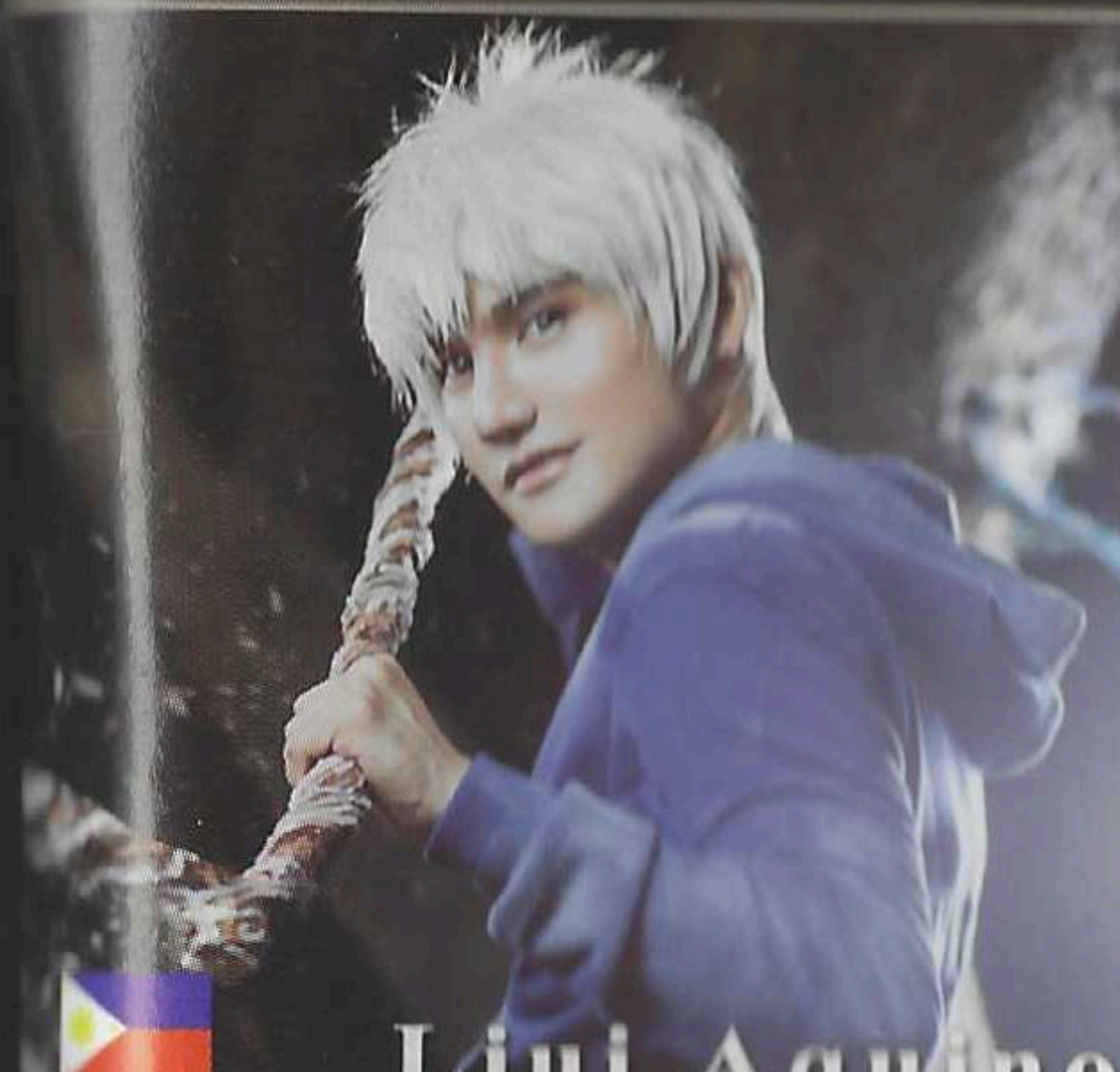
As of now, Chii is concentrating on her studies and attends a school in Marikina. Although she rarely cosplays nowadays, her contribution to the cosplay community and influence especially to child cosplayers will remain strong in the years to come.

FANTASY QUEST

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